



# The Wyndham WAY

Respect, Co-Operation & Excellence

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Welcome to our monthly Parent Newsletter.

16<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

Our aim is to keep parents informed of upcoming events and important dates to remember.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### WELCOME

Our term commenced with the full school assembly and it was very pleasing to see the first full complement of the new school uniform. Our academic program began last year with a full step up program for all students (apart from Year 7).

This year we welcomed around 200 Year 7 students from our feeder schools, as well as a handful of students into other year levels. We extend a warm welcome to them, and to all new families. Our enrolments have again increased significantly with around 720 students, and we are at capacity at most year levels.

Along with this increase in students we are also welcoming to the school 9 new members of staff.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to introduce and welcome the following staff to the school this year:

Ms Angie Chan – VCE Maths  
Mr Allan Nilsen - Japanese/Humanities  
Mr Ben Carter – VCE Maths  
Mr Zac Burnett – HAPE /Outdoor Ed  
Mr Martin Olmos – Spanish/Maths  
Mr Tom Gardner – EAL/English

Mrs Jacinta Pritchard – Food Tec /English  
Ms Sushma Devi – English/VCE EAL  
Mr Edward Hatzis – Yr Level Leader  
Mr Kevin Luu – VCAL/English  
Mr Thanh Nguyen – VCE English

### 2015 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Assistant Principal – Curriculum Mrs Leanne Gagatsis  
Assistant Principal – Middle Years Mrs Yvonne Harvey  
Assistant Principal – Later Years Mr Bryan Woollard

### Year Level Leaders:

Year 7 Mr Tom Robertson  
Year 8 Mr Simon Thorley  
Year 9 Mr Mark O'Callaghan  
Year 10 Mrs Marie Milkovic  
Year 11 Mr Edward Hatzis  
Year 12 Mrs Rebecca Sandlant

All of our families were asked to attend the Tutor interviews last year where the tutors conducted interviews and provided the first contact as the tutor and person responsible for day to day issues. Please remember to contact the tutor for any questions pertaining to the wellbeing of your son/daughter.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

I am now calling for nominations for **School Council**. In this election period we have **3 Parent Vacancies** for a two year appointment commencing this term and **2 DEECD Employee member vacancies** for a two year appointment. If any parent would like to discuss the role of Council I would be more than happy to provide advice and information. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Front

IMPORTANT DATES
18 <sup>th</sup> Feb – School Photos
18 <sup>th</sup> Feb – VCE Information Evening 7pm
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar – Student Free Day
9 <sup>th</sup> Mar – Labour Day Public Holiday
12-13 <sup>th</sup> Mar – Yr 11 Outdoor Ed Coastal Camp

Office in the new administration building and close on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015. More information is available below.

### **SCHOOL DROP OFF/PICK UP**

The Westrans buses are currently experiencing difficulty with their before school drop off and after school pick up due to parent parking.

Could all parents please ensure that when you are using the service road that you do not park in the bus areas and block their thoroughfare and that you only stop near the administration building.

Kind regards  
Julie Myers

*Creating a Community of High Expectations*

*Schedule 4*

# **Wyndham Central College**

## **Notice of Election and Call for Nominations**

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of  
**Wyndham Central College**

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by **4.00 pm** on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015**.

The ballot will close at **4.00 pm** on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015**.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<b>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</b>	<b>TERM OF OFFICE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</b>
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017.	3 (three) positions
DET employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017.	2 (two) positions

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Mrs Julie Myers  
Principal

**WYNDHAM CENTRAL COLLEGE**

**School Council Election 2015 - Information for Parents**

### **What is a school council and what does it do?**

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

## Who is on the school council?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

## Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

## How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

## Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

## What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

### Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

## **BRADLEY WADE 27/7/2000 – 1/1/2015**



It is with sadness that the staff and students of Wyndham Central College acknowledge the passing of one of our students Bradley Wade who died unexpectedly at home on 1/1/15.

Bradley will be remembered as a friendly boy, always smiling who loved his sport and was always willing to have a go.

Our sympathies go to his family and friends left behind.

### **MIDDLE YEARS REPORT**

Welcome to 2015. The middle school students have made a wonderful start to the year. We would like to welcome in particular our new year 7 cohort and our new year 7 parents. Please remember we are continually trying to improve our College and our results. If your child comes to school fully equipped with their AVID binder and in full school uniform they are ready for the day.

There have been some student absences. It is very important you inform the College if your child is absent and the reason why. This year one of our targets is to reduce any student absences and hence we trust you will work with us on this for the benefit of all students' learning.

On the whole the uniform is being worn with pride – there are a few students who are not wearing the **full** school uniform or are wearing the sports uniform on non PE days. Please can you make every effort to make sure your child comes to school representing us well. Facial piercings and un-natural hair colours are not accepted (this includes spacers).

Our new Middle years captains are :

Najma Hassan and Rhys Rankin

Deputy Captains: Ashley Shanks and Hozannah Johnny

If there are any suggestions for improvement to our learning environment, alongside the class captains, the Middle years captains are there to listen to students.

If there are any concerns (or even anything you are particularly happy with) please contact your child's tutor teacher. After this you may contact your child's year level leader.

Year 7: Mr Tom Robinson  
Year 8: Mr Simon Thorley  
Year 9: Mr Mark O'Callaghan  
I look forward to another wonderful year with you.

Yvonne Harvey  
Middle Years Assistant Principal

## **YEAR 7 REPORT**

The Year 7's have started brilliantly, settling in really well with loads of fantastic learning occurring in all their subjects. They have caught onto the Cornell note taking system really well and are practicing in every class. Questions and Summaries from the Cornell notes are something to ask your child about as they will need to be completing these at home on a weekly basis. All students should be recording homework in their planner and this is also a great form of communication between school and home, so make sure you've seen it coming home.

An expression of interest form re: potential year 7 orientation camp in term 2 was sent home on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February. If you haven't seen this please let the tutor teacher know.

A most effective way to communicate with the school is through your child's tutor teacher via email. A reminder of all email addresses is as follows:

7A – Patrick Agius [agius.patrick.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:agius.patrick.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7B – Anita Herbert [herbert.anita.s@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:herbert.anita.s@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7C – Alec De-Leon [de-leon.alex.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:de-leon.alex.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7D – Steve Eadie [eadie.steve.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:eadie.steve.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7E – Janine Smith [Smith.Janine.J@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Smith.Janine.J@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7F – Shalika Sharma [sharma.shalika.s@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:sharma.shalika.s@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7G – Christina Lomagno [lomagno.christina.c@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:lomagno.christina.c@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
7H – Sue Butcher [butcher.susanne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:butcher.susanne.m@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Year Level Leader – Tom Robinson [robinson.thomas.b@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:robinson.thomas.b@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Tom Robinson  
Year 7 Year Level Leader

## **YEAR 8 REPORT**

I would like to introduce myself as the Year 8 Year Level Leader at Wyndham Central College for 2015. I am excited with the prospect of working with all of the Year 8 students, and achieving great outcomes throughout the year. The Year 8 team consists of five fantastic tutor teachers, Ms. Porrino, Ms. Vlahos, Ms. Lee, Mr. Sherriff, and Ms. Gogos. We all plan to make the year fun and engaging for our Year 8 students. To start the year off successfully, students need to be organised and ready for class. One of the most important things they will need is their AVID folders. Could you please ensure your child is using their AVID folders (which contains every subject book), and are completing their Cornell notes to a high standard. It is also a good idea to be checking their planners for homework and other important dates. We look forward to a fun and rewarding 2015 with all of the Year 8 students. Please feel free to contact me on the following email address if you have any questions, or require any assistance.  
[thorley.simon.s@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:thorley.simon.s@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Simon Thorley  
Yr 8 Year Level Leader

## **YEAR 9 REPORT**

Welcome back to school.

It's a new year, a new space and a new co-ordinator. My name is Mark O'Callaghan and I am the Year 9 Level Leader for 2015.

As with all year levels at WCC, students need to be organised and ready for class. This means having a complete and up to date AVID binder with all books neatly organised. It also means that netbooks need to be brought to school daily fully charged along with their planners too. It also means being prepared and having full school uniform. The blazer is required this year as well as a lock and locker in which to store personal materials and bags.

Our school is aiming for 100% attendance this year and it is important that students come daily to ensure continuity in their studies. Of course there may be times of illness and it would be great if you contacted the school by phone or a note to explain any absence.

The planners are a good communication tool with teachers and please check these for homework, important dates or messages from teachers.

Please feel free to contact me on the following email address if you have any questions, or require any assistance. I look forward to a great year ahead.

[ocallaghan.mark.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:ocallaghan.mark.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Mark O'Callaghan  
Yr 9 Year Level Leader

## **SENIOR YEARS REPORT**

I hope that all students and their families have had a wonderful holiday and are ready for the new school year. I look forward to working with and supporting the senior years students and their families in working towards the completion of a successful secondary school education. It is with high expectations, the building of a partnership between the College and families and also two way communication which will see the fruition of every student's hopes and aspirations. I encourage you to please make contact with the College if you have any concerns so that they can be dealt with in a timely fashion.

We would like to invite all parents of Years 11 and 12 students to attend a **Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February, at 7pm in the College auditorium** to begin developing these relationships. There will be valuable presentations by the Leading teachers discussing College and VCE/VCAL requirements and also future pathways.

The School captains have now been appointed and the successful students went through a rigorous process of presenting a speech on an assembly followed by an interview process. The School Captains form part of the student leadership team and represent the student body.

I would like to announce that the 2015 Year 12 School Captains are as follows:

Isabel Cherukara

Mega Hill

Ashis Patel

Laxmi Singh

Tiaan Steyn

Isabel, Ashis, Mega, Laxmi and Tiaan have already done a fantastic job as the Masters of Ceremony at our Awards Night at the end of 2014 and I'm sure that they will do a fantastic job throughout 2015.

Congratulations and good luck!

We appreciated your attendance at the Step Up Tutor Teacher conference meetings at the end of last year and I would like to remind you that your first point of contact is your son/daughters' Tutor Teacher.

The following are the names of the senior years staff:

### **Year 10: Year Level Leader- Marie Milkovic**

10A Pina Siragusano      10B Amy Cole      10C Sharon Bumpstead      10D Barbara Vakrinos

10E Cathy Myers

### **Year 11: Year Level Leader- Eddy Hatzis**

11A Anthony Gauci      11B Peter Nash      11C John Cutter      11D Andrew Wokulski

11E Scott Lynch

### **Year 12: Year Level Leader- Rebecca Sandlant**

12A Lynda Wilson      12B Geoff Bumpstead      12C Connie Faranda      12D Kevin Luu

12E Del Cutter

## **FREE ONLINE TUTORING FOR ALL YEARS 10-12 STUDENTS**

Tutoring Australia, in partnership with Victoria University and our College are providing a **free online tutoring service** from Sunday-Friday (3pm-10pm) for all years 10-12 students at WCC; it also offers a skill building service. All students will receive their log on details and password in the next week.

Please encourage your child to use this free service to provide them with extra assistance with their school work.

If you have any questions, then please don't hesitate to contact the College.

Bryan Woollard  
Senior Years Assistant Principal

## **YEAR 10 REPORT**

An essential part of the **Year 10 program**, at Wyndham Central College, is for all students to undertake a VCE study, Industry and Enterprise and students are currently working on unit 1.

This will provide each student with an opportunity to develop an awareness of work place skills and competencies in preparation for their work placement visits. As a compulsory part of this study it is an expectation that all Year 10 students are to participate in work placement of one week duration.

As this is a compulsory part of the Year 10 program it is an expectation that all students attend work placement and consequently there will be no year 10 classes operating at school during this time.

I urge all parents to encourage their son/daughter to be actively seeking work placement, if not already organised and return their completed forms to Sharon Bumpstead.

Semester 1 dates for work experience: Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of April to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2015.

Also, a reminder that to ensure promotion from Year 10 into Year 11, all Year 10 students are to pay attention to maintaining 100% attendance in their classes.

Marie Milkovic  
Yr 10 Year Level Leader

## **YEAR 12 REPORT**

Welcome back and congratulations to all Year 12 students. The start of Year 12 officially began last year in Step Up and students were issued a number of holiday tasks by their teachers to complete in preparation for this year. On the first day back we started with an assembly which clearly outlined the requirements for successfully completing VCE. We also reiterated the school values of being at school every day on time, in uniform and ready to learn. I encourage all parents to attend the parent information night coming up on the 19<sup>th</sup> of February which will also outline the requirements and expectations for Year 12

Rebecca Sandlant  
Yr 12 Year Level Leader

## **AVID: ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION: TERM 1, 2015**

Wyndham Central College is committed to the successful implementation of the AVID university readiness system school wide. AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap and prepare all students for university readiness and success in a global society. AVID is a research-based program with proven results of student achievement

### **AVID Middle Years**

All year Middle Years students are taught by AVID trained teachers in all core subjects. Teachers teach specific skills in:

- Writing
- Inquiry
- Collaboration
- Organisation
- Reading

This term, students are focusing on

- Binder and Organisation
- Cornell notes

One aspect of success is organisation. At Wyndham Central College, it is an expectation that all students have the AVID Binder. The **AVID Binder is a compulsory** item at years 7- 10, which should have been purchased on your child's booklist. Most students have the binder; however for the few who may not it is important for parents to ensure that their child is prepared for class with the Avid Binder. Parents are able to purchase the AVID Binder at the College by sending the cost of the binder (\$35) with their child to the school administration office. Students will then be issued with a receipt and must present this receipt to their Year Level Leader or administration assistant and collect their Binder. Please note that Hedley are no longer in business and that Campion are the College's booklist company supplying all booklist items.

Cornell notes are a proven focused note-taking method. When used appropriately, students are guaranteed to increase their knowledge and raise their grades in any given class!

The required parts of the notes:

- Full heading
- Specific topic
- Notes in the right side highlighted with key words or phrases
- Main ideas and high level questions in the left column
- A summary at the end of the notes

Students are expected to use the Cornell Note format and repetition strategies and review notes regularly. Parents please have a look at your child's work and encourage and support your child to use the repetition strategies and review notes regularly as this will help them prepare for and improve their test and exam results.

### **Senior Year AVID Elective**

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February the Year 10, 11 and 12 AVID Elective students acknowledged their commitment and determination to work diligently towards achieving excellence and achieving their goals.

The Senior AVID Elective students will also focus on:

- Binder and organisation
- Cornell Notes
- Tutorial Request Forms

The students are required to ensure that they have a well organised binder and weekly students are required to complete a binder check to ensure that all components of the binder are neatly and meticulously organised. This will form part of the semester's assessment.

Students have also been learning the format and philosophy of Cornell notes and students are expected to take Cornell notes in all classes and then **revise** these notes for homework, formulating questions in the left hand column and a summary at the end of the notes.

All students are required to complete a Tutorial Request Form (TRF) so they can bring a point of confusion or a question with which they need help to class. Through inquiry students are guided by their peers and their tutor to gain an understanding of their point of confusion or question.

Please ask your student to explain some of the skills they have been learning in AVID as this provides your child with another opportunity to consolidate their understanding.

All Year 10, 11 and 12 AVID Elective students attended the Deakin University Camp on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February. The students were wonderful and a productive and enjoyable time was had by all. Thank you to all staff, students and parents for your support. Please take the time to read the student report below for a snap shot of the camp.

### **AVID Camp Student Report**

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2015, the Year 10, 11 and 12 AVID Elective students were lucky enough to attend a camp at Deakin University, Waurin Ponds campus. On this camp, we were able to experience the life of being a university student. After we settled our belongings in the dormitories, we were given a tour of the University by Dom, a current university student studying Architecture. After the tour we all participated in a Scavenger Hunt around campus, this helped us feel more familiar and comfortable with

being on such a large campus. We then completed team building activities that helped us all get to know each other better. After lunch the focus was on Cornell Notes, as we practiced the five steps of the Cornell Note Taking System while at the same time learning about some strategies that we can employ to help improve our memory, such as chunking and rehearsal and three mnemonic devices: Narrative chaining, Acrostics and Acronyms. Later that evening, we were entertained by Mark Dobson, a motivational speaker who gave us some very valuable strategies on what we can do to improve our results and to study effectively. These include having knowledge goals, finding experts that can help you with each subject, using class time effectively and not wasting time setting up. He reminded us that working hard means having something to show for the time you spent working and to enjoy the feeling of fulfilment when you have completed the work. We finished this day with a Trivia game and the competition between the teams was fierce!



On Friday morning we started bright and early with the Year 11 and 12 students investigating the three levels of the Deakin University Library and its many resources, by participating in the Deakin Library Treasure Hunt. While the Year 10 group engaged in a Critical reading activity that began with a Philosophical chair. The Philosophical chair had us thinking about whether energy drinks should be banned for young people under 18. We then read an article about this and practiced the steps of Critical reading including numbering the paragraphs, circling key words and underlining important information. In the next part of the day the groups swapped the Year 12 students were given some time to do private study, because they have a really big year in their final year of VCE. After morning tea we were involved in a Socratic seminar about energy drinks being banned for people under 18. We learnt that a Socratic seminar is a discussion rather than a debate like the Philosophical chairs. It forces you to think deeply about the topic and helps you better understand the topic. Just before lunch we caught the Deakin Campus Shuttle bus, this transports students from Waurn Ponds Campus to the Waterfront Campus. When we arrived at the Waterfront we had time for some lunch in the cafeteria. After lunch we had a presentation from Deakin about effective study habits followed by a tour of the campus. The presentation was interactive and we learnt what study skills we have that are helping and others that may help. Then we were back on the shuttle bus and back to the Waurn Pond campus. Ba won the challenge of getting through the twenty



minute bus trip without holding on! On Friday night we walked to the Waurn Ponds Shopping centre for dinner and a Movie, we were able to choose from "The Theory of Everything" or "The Imitation Game" we then walked back to our dormitories.

The next morning we completed a few more team building activities. This was followed by the Spider web Reflection activity before returning on our short journey back to Wyndham Central College.

On behalf of all the AVID group, we would like to say a special thanks to all the teachers who made it possible to attend Deakin University: Ms Faranda, Mr Cutter, Mrs Cutter and Mr Lynch

Lauren Cooper and Manasek Ahmed  
Year 10 AVID Elective Students

## **SPORTS REPORT**

Welcome back to the new school sports year which will be jam packed full of competitions, especially this term.

During the first week of Term all students had the opportunity to sign up for Term 1 sports. From this list I sourced coaches who were able to take the team out

Term 1 sports are

Cricket

Volleyball

Tennis

Netball

Table tennis

Senior Soccer

All sports are scheduled across Term 1 and we wish all teams the best of luck in their competitions.



### **Wyndham Central College Swimming Sports**

Last Friday, the 13<sup>th</sup> February at Lara Swimming Pool Wyndham Central College held the annual Swimming Carnival. The weather was perfect and participation in all events was very high. The highlight of the day was seeing the students marshalling in the correct order for the tube race before the event was even called. It was great to see such enthusiasm and to see that the students had the

ability to get themselves in order ready to go. I have been involved in swimming carnivals for a number of years and never seen this before I was very impressed. It was great to see most events full of participants.

I would really like to thank all the staff members for their help on the day. A day like this is successful because of all their hard work.

The next round of competition is coming up very soon and I will be in contact with students who have made the Wyndham Swimming Team.

Please feel free to contact me at the school if you have any questions.



Yours in Sport  
Rebecca Sandlant  
Team Sports Co-ordinator

## **2016 NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM**

### **Attention any Yr 11 science student.**

The NYSF program consists of a mix of scientific, formal, personal development, and social activities.

These range from laboratory visits to sports evenings and from a bush dance to group dynamics.

The program is run by students from the previous year's NYSF, who have been planning and improving the forum over the course of the previous year. These are the NYSF staff and will either have just finished year 12, or first year university. These people will never tell a student what to do, but may make hints in that direction.

Speakers at various forums, debates, seminars and other activities come from outside the science forum, or have been students many years ago.

During the NYSF the students stay on campus at The Australian National University's (ANU) Burgmann College in Canberra.

A series of seminars are run during the second week of the forum.

The program in January doesn't stop there. There are a series of events such as the Next Step Program.

### **Next Step Program**

From March to July each year, the NYSF offers a sequence of three-day events across Australia for students who have participated in the January NYSF sessions. These are run in close collaboration with many of Australia's leading universities, industries and research organisations. The universities design programs specifically for NYSF students, to extend and develop their knowledge of courses, facilities, scholarships and accommodation on the different campuses. Leading industries provide in-house workshops and tours of facilities and current research that is not accessible to the public. Students from the three January fora are encouraged to participate in as many of these events as possible.

If you are interested in applying for the 2016 NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM, to be held in Canberra, please see Mr Germano.

Application deadline: Open- 1<sup>st</sup> March; Close – 31<sup>st</sup> May.

Mr. Germano

Head of Science/STEMNET Executive

## **LANGUAGES**

Language studies focus on developing language proficiency and promote intercultural understanding.

Studying a language better equips students to engage with others and participate fully in an increasingly globalised world. This can only be viewed as a progressive way forward and we are proud to be able to offer such an opportunity to our students.

Studying languages allows students to further develop social and academic skills that will be useful as they become adult members of our community. Acquiring knowledge of languages other than English will also help improve students' future employment opportunities. The two languages that the College offers are Spanish and Japanese.

### **Spanish**

The Spanish program is offered to students at years 7 to 9. We have developed strong collaboration networks with the neighbouring primary school. The program explores the Spanish culture and everyday life through objects, clothing and food to more complex studies of Spanish grammar via vocabulary, reading, writing and listening skills. All of these skills will enable students to move from junior to senior language studies at school and onto further tertiary education or in the world of work.

This year, students will be assessed on reading, writing and listening skills in a more vigorous manner and will need to display these skills in a number of occasions.

### **Spanish Immersion Program**

The Year 7 and 8 Spanish Immersion program (SIP) is an exciting program that expands Students understanding and appreciation of the Spanish language and culture. Students are immersed in the Spanish language as they are taught Mathematics, Science and Humanities. The instructions and content is still given in English, this allows students to not only gain skills in these fields but also provides the opportunity for Students to continue practicing their Spanish language skills. As with anything in life the more you practice the better you learn.



To the right is a picture of 7C Spanish Immersion class.

### **Japanese**

Located in East Asia in the Pacific Ocean, Japan is a land which is both unique in its beauty and its cultural history. Like Australia Japan is an island nation. Japan is made up of 4 large islands and 6,848 smaller ones. More than 126 million people live in Japan.

Japanese is a beautiful language. Learning Japanese opens the door to the unique culture of Japan and its peoples. Japanese with its honorific and humble language is a reflection of Japan's ultra-polite culture and society. At WCC when learning about Japanese language and culture students learn take a deeper look at their own culture. In year 7 students begin to learn the Japanese alphabet and how to introduce themselves and ask and answer simple questions. Year 8 sees students continue to learn the alphabet and essential why, where, when, how and who questions which enable them to have basic conversations. By year 9 students are expected to have some grasp of the Japanese language and we move into more complex conversations, such as talking about the weather and giving directions. Like most cultures around the world, Japanese love their food!

Japanese cuisine has developed as part of daily life with a connection to annual events such as New Year's celebrations and rice planting. Japan's traditional cuisine has UNESCO heritage status. At all year levels WCC aim to be taking at least one Japanese cooking class a term. Students will learn how to make Japanese delights such as sushi rolls and soba noodles. As WCC's new Japanese teacher I look forward to helping students develop an understanding of Japanese culture and language. This also helps in students understanding their own culture, language and their place in this world.

### **WYNDHAM YOUTH PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION**

The Wyndham Youth Public Speaking Competition is upon us again. The competition is an excellent opportunity for students to showcase their skills and speak on topics they are passionate about. The competition is open to all students in Year levels 7-12. Students who are interested in entering the completion should see Ms Serovska at the college to pick up an entry form and for further information regarding the competition.

Ms Serovska  
English Teacher

## G'DAY USA TRIP JANUARY 2015



On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 6 Wyndham Central College students were part of a larger Wyndham group of students off to America for 20 days. Here is a brief snapshot from a few students who had the chance to experience this amazing opportunity:



Janaya Inglis and Maddie Smith: ... We travelled from Melbourne to Auckland and then from Auckland to San Francisco, it was a really long flight, 16hrs all up. Everyone was so tired. In San Francisco we went for a walk all day, had a stretch hummer limo ride at night, went to Alcatraz Island, Hard Rock Cafe, Fisherman's wharf, walked the Golden Gate Bridge and toured all around. We then flew to LA where we went Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Universal Studios, Pirates Adventure dinner, toured all around LA/Hollywood Boulevard, went to Santa Monica and went to the LA Lakers v LA Clippers NBA basketball game. We then drove to San Diego where we stayed with a host family for one week, we went out on the weekends with our host family, we went to their winter formal, shopping for two whole days, Julian, went on the old Naval ship USS Midway, San Diego Zoo, Sea World and spent the last 3 days with our host family. On the last day we had a sad drive back to LA, flew to Auckland and then back to Melbourne. We have all made so many long life friends and all had the most amazing time of our lives.



My name is Natalie Hendricksen and this January I went to America! I had an amazing time with so many experiences I will always remember. However, the one thing that is most memorable to me is my host family. My week with them was amazing. They did everything they could to make me feel right at home and treated me like a queen.

The first Saturday they took me skiing and paid for Sara (my host) and I to have our first ever ski lessons. I had so much fun and loved the whole experience. We both stacked heaps of times but it was one of the best days I've ever had!

The best time of the entire trip was going to Sara's school. It was amazing to compare the differences between her school, El Capitan, and mine, Werribee Secondary. Their start and end times were different (unfortunately a two hour earlier start difference!), their clothes were different, even their

classroom setups and subject choices themselves were different. They love our accents and are so naïve about Australia that they are so keen to listen to anything and everything that you can tell them! I loved going to America and I would recommend for anyone to go, especially with G'day USA. That way you can have the experience of staying with a host family, which I found was so much more enjoyable than doing all the tourist-type activities. But a word of advice, if you do decide to go to America make sure to bring *a lot* of TimTams – they love them!



Ms Porrino  
G'Day USA Tour Co-ordinator

### **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

School Photo day will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February. The photographers will hand out information on how to order the photos to the students at the time they have their photo taken.

Students must be in uniform. **Blazers must be worn.** White shirts and ties must be worn under the blazer (or for girls the school dress can be worn). If your child has sport on that day, they must bring the white shirt, tie and blazer for the photo.

### **ENGLISH AND MATHS HOMEWORK CLASSES FOR 2015**

English and Maths Homework classes will commence on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February in rooms AD2 and AD3 every Wednesday from 3.10 to 4pm. There will be English and Maths teachers available to assist all students from Year7—12.

There will also be time available to assist year 12 English students in the study centre on Thursdays from 8.15 to 8.45am.

If there are any questions, please contact:

Lynda Wilson, English and AVID Leader

Andrew Wokulski, Homework Co-ordinator



## COMMUNICATION/GRIEVANCE PROCESS FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

**1**

Make an appointment with the Tutor Teacher

**2**

If the issue is unresolved, make an appointment with the appropriate Year Level Leader

**3**

If the issue is still unresolved you may need to meet with the Assistant Principal for either Middle or Senior years

**4**

If you are still dissatisfied, phone or write to the Principal

**5**

Make an appointment with the Principal via the Principal's Executive Assistant

**6**

If the matter is not resolved after Steps 1 - 5, then the issue can be raised with the Regional Office on 9291-6500

## **PATHWAYS & TRANSITIONS REPORT**

Congratulations to our 2014 Year 12 cohort on their pathway successes.

Of our 89 enrolled Year 12 students, 52 were made VTAC Tertiary Offers.

Of these, 22 were University Offers, 25 were TAFE Offers (Diploma Courses) and 5 were Private Provider Courses.

The University offers were for a range of Universities, including Australian College of the Arts (1), Deakin University (4), Federation (Ballarat) University (1), La Trobe University (1), MIBT (1), Monash University (1), RMIT (2), Swinburne (1) and Victoria University (12). The selection of courses ranged from generalist Arts & Science courses to specialty courses such as Teaching, Exercise Science, Building & Construction, etc. There were some high demand University/Higher Education offers such as Law, Biomedical Science, Pharmaceutical Science Advanced with Honours, Architecture, Civil Engineering & Education.

The TAFE & Private Provider offers covered a range of institutions such as The Academy of Interactive Entertainment (1), Box Hill Institute (2), Footscray City Films (1), The Gordon (4), Kangan (1), RMIT TAFE (2), Swinburne TAFE (2), Victoria University TAFE (10) & William Angliss (4). Each of these TAFE courses provide potential pathways to higher education (university) or lead directly into employment.

Of the remaining 37 students, 11 have engaged in full time employment, apprenticeships or traineeships and 5 have enrolled in pre-apprenticeship courses at Victoria University. One student has enrolled in the Foundation Studies course at VU and another was the recipient of a Dance Scholarship. Direct entry applications, finalised at the end of last year, account for a further 16 students. These students enrolled in courses such as Children's Services and Community Services at VU, Beauty at The Gordon, VU EAL (English as a Second Language) Support Dual Certificate Courses in Aged Care, Child Care, Certificate Courses in Warehousing, Construction Pathways, Civil Construction (Plant Operations) with The Elatum Group & Foresite Training, etc.

The remaining 3 students are either taking a gap year or travelling.

All of our students need to be commended on their determination to succeed and their drive in pursuing their desired pathways.

I wish them every success in their future endeavours.

Mrs Kathy Karlovic

Pathways & Transitions Leader



# Wyndham Youth Public Speaking Competition



A community project jointly sponsored by the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing and the Hoppers Crossing Apex Club.

✉ **Post Office Box 1123, Werribee Plaza VIC 3030**

✉ [wynspeak@wynspeak.com.au](mailto:wynspeak@wynspeak.com.au)

## GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS

ENTRY INTO WYNSPEAK

TO BE HELD – MAY/JUNE 2015

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The competition aims to provide opportunities for English students to prepare for their later working life by developing skills in public speaking and speech preparation in a fun environment. It is jointly organised by the Rotary Club of Hoppers Crossing and the Hoppers Crossing Apex Club with support from Rostrum Victoria and Wyndham City Council Youth Services.
- The competition is open to all students, year 7 and above, attending secondary schools / colleges situated within the Western Region of Melbourne or students of secondary school age and entered by local youth organisations or alternative schools.
- The Competition comprises two age groupings . A junior section for students of school age corresponding to years 7-9 and a senior section for students of school age corresponding to years 10-12.
- The Competition comprises of two sections. The first section will be a prepared speech of five minutes duration on a topic of the speaker's choice. The second section of Competition will be a short notice speech.
- Each school will be limited to a total of four students competing in the competition. Two students may attend years 7-9 and two further students of years 10-12, in separate but concurrent competitions.
- Winners of the Junior and Senior competition will receive a cash prize and trophy –Prizes will be presented to the winner of the Impromptu section and all competitors will receive a certificate of achievement as proof of their willingness to participate
- The school attended by the winner of the prepared speech section in the senior competition may hold and proudly display a perpetual trophy to display for a period of twelve months leading up to the following year's competition.
- Adjudication will be provided by Rostrum Victoria and members of the Rotary and Apex Clubs of Hoppers Crossing.

### COMPETITION DETAILS

The competition will consist of two separate sections which will be conducted concurrently, on the same evening, and students will be automatically entered into both sections once colleges submit their application forms to us.

#### Section 1

A prepared speech of five minutes duration on a topic of the speaker's choice. Full details of the adjudication criteria, speech duration limits and warnings etc. will be explained to each participant in a briefing session prior to the competition. A cash prize and permanent trophy will be presented to the winning speaker. A perpetual trophy will be presented to a representative of the winning speaker's school.

#### Section 2

An impromptu speech of two minutes duration on a topic provided to the speaker on the night with minimum notice. A prize will also be presented to the winning speaker of this section. This will be a totally separate competition and results will not impact on the major five minute section of competition.

The winner of the Wyndham Youth Public Speaking Competition will gain direct access into the Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition State Finals.

#### Venue

The final will be held at City of Wyndham Function Centre, Princes Highway, Werribee on Wednesday 3 June 2015.

The venue for preliminary rounds will be Wyndham Youth Resource Centre in Derrimut Road, Hoppers Crossing. Dates for the preliminary rounds are 5, 12, 19, 21 and 26 May 2015.

**For information: see your English co-ordinator or ring Des O'Shanassy on 0401 287 050. Email enquiries to [wynspeak@wynspeak.com.au](mailto:wynspeak@wynspeak.com.au)**