



Welcome to our Parent Newsletter.

5 August 2019

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

## Parent Opinion Survey

**1 week to go!**

What we learn becomes a part of who we are!

Just a reminder to all parents who have received an invitation to participate in the 2019 Parent Opinion Survey. The survey finishes on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August, so please get your responses in. The Survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete, and if you would like assistance in completing it please call the administration office on 9741 4911. Your feedback is important to us and helps shape future planning for the College.

### IMPORTANT DATES

5 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 12 VTAC Parent Presentation
9 <sup>th</sup> August	Student Free Day – Staff Professional Learning
12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> August	Science Week – Various activities in the Swinburne building
13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> August	School Musical Battle of the Bands
16 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 10 Illuminate Night Market (4pm – 6:30pm)
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 12 Tutor Day
30 <sup>th</sup> August	Wear it Purple day
12 <sup>th</sup> September	COMPASS online bookings for Parent Teacher interviews made available from 3pm
16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 12 Internal Exams
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Teacher Interviews – 4pm – 7pm
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent Teacher Interviews – 9am – 1pm
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Start of Term 4

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### From the Principal's Desk

Term three continues as we ended term two – on a high note! In this edition you will be informed about our very talented students who have excelled in many endeavours over the first few weeks of semester two. Whilst we have acknowledged in this newsletter a couple of areas there have been many students, opportunities and performances that our school community should be very proud of.

#### Internationalism

During term three our College will once again host overseas delegations from both Mito School in Japan and Gredos San Diego in Spain, we also welcome a group of students from our Sister City School from Estancia in Costa Mesa, California, USA. The Wyndham Central College and leadership team would like to once again thank families for hosting and we acknowledge that without parental support it would be difficult for these programs to take place. Our international program is a great opportunity for students from both schools to learn from each other and share information about learning and culture in their respective countries. Our school study buddies once again have the chance to build on their knowledge and language skills as part of our buddy support program. If you are interested in finding out more about our language and international programs or are interested in hosting in the future please contact Mr. Alex De-leon our Internationalism leader for further information.

**All newsletters are posted on COMPASS**  
for parents & students

#### **Newsletter Content**

- ❖ Important dates
- ❖ Principal's Report
- ❖ Assistant Principal's Report
- ❖ Year Level Leaders' Reports
- ❖ STEM Academy Report
- ❖ Spanish Immersion Report
- ❖ Careers News
- ❖ Sports Report
- ❖ SRC Report
- ❖ Administration Requirements
- ❖ Community News

### **IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY**

**Be at school on time, in uniform and ready to learn**

### Pathways Week

Our pathways team led by Mrs Kathy Karlovic have been working with our years 9-12 students in the first couple of weeks providing students with the opportunities to attend Pathway expo's with 44 different providers presenting at Wyndham Central College, holding a Tertiary event and VTAC information night for our year 12 students, a VCE/VCAL/VIP taster program for our year 10 students and our subject expo for all years 9 -11 students. The school would like to take this opportunity to thank parents who attended during this week and supported the students, your children, in selecting their pathway choices for 2020. All student passports should have been submitted and are now overdue. The college will be working hard over the next few weeks in developing a well-rounded 2020 timetable and teaching program that caters for all students.

Confirmation of entry into our specific AVID elective, STEM, Spanish Immersion, Enrichment, VCAL and VCE Industry programs will be available to families by the end of term and all subject selection confirmations will be sent home in the first two weeks of term 4.

### Student reports and student results

A printed copy of the Semester one report was distributed to families on day one of this term. If parents/carers did not receive their copy I would like to remind you that all reports are available on COMPASS via your parent login. Students have all set learning goals based on their own learning journey. Families are encouraged to support students to achieve these goals by talking about learning and asking for help. The college has enhanced our programs with the extension of homework club, year 12 tutoring service and an earlier Parent/Teacher interview opportunity and a new Middle Years Literacy and Numeracy program (MYLENS). Students identified will be receiving further information shortly.

Staff are already preparing five weekly checks for our senior classes and interim reporting 7-12. This will also be the last report for our year 12 cohort. Please note that a key part of the success of your son's/daughter's education is the way you interact with the school. We hope that once again we will see all of our families at the parent-teacher interviews on either Thursday 19th or Friday 20th September, but we also are available to all parents/guardians/carers to discuss and work with you in partnership to improve outcomes for all of our students. Your sons/daughters teachers and tutor teachers are available to you via email or telephone in the first instance.

### NAPLAN results

Parents of year 7 and 9 students will also be receiving information regarding the results from the NAPLAN testing over the next month. Please make contact with the school if you have any questions, concerns or if you don't receive the package. As a reminder the college completed the test online in 2019 and we are excited to see improved outcomes in Reading, Writing, Vocabulary and Numeracy outcomes as our students grow in their abilities between years 5-7 and years 7-9.

### Student Voice – Attitudes to School Survey results.

Over the last week our staff have been working through the results from our Attitudes to School Survey. It has provided some very positive data around students having a real understanding that high expectations improve results and the importance of coming to school every day. We look forward to continuing to work with student focus groups on improvement strategies and developing their leadership and student voice. Our new and improved Student Representative Council (SRC) will be sharing the data and forming improvement actions with their respective year level cohorts via year level assemblies and as focus groups during our pastoral program. We thank our students for completing the survey and then working on actions that continue to build the pride in our school community. We are very proud of their leadership.

### Parent Surveys

As I have mentioned a few times it is extremely important that schools and parents work together to create the best learning environment for students. Our annual parent surveys have been distributed to over 300 families and I once again encourage all families that have received the letter to please complete the online survey. If you haven't been provided with a survey request but would like to meet with me to provide feedback or suggestions for improvement please do not hesitate to call the school and arrange an appointment.

I would like to welcome some new staff members to the college that have started with us in semester two:

Humanities: Siaki Kirifi, Tania Howe, Kimberley Milne  
Maths: Alexander Mejia, Ajay Shah, Hai Duong  
Technology: Nathan Hughes

In closing, I would like to let the community know that I will be on leave for a short period of time in starting new week 12th August. During this time the college will be in the very capable hands of a long standing member and leader of our school community Mr. Bryan Woollard who will move from his Senior Years Assistant Principal role into the Acting Principal role during this time. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Woollard during this time.

**Leanne Gagatsis - Principal**  
**Creating a Community of High Expectations**

### **Notice from CDC Bus Company**

Wyndham Vale School Run Diversion (Wyndham Vale 4540)

Please note that roadworks on McGrath Rd are now complete, therefore, buses will return back to their normal routes from Wednesday 07/08/2019 AM School Run onwards.

### **Road Safety**

In the interest of student safety and the efficiency of the school buses, please do not park in the yellow painted curb **2.45pm-3:15pm**. The school buses experience difficulties turning at the end of the road which delay the service and the pickup of students. This increases the risk to student safety and the damage to motor vehicles. Your support is greatly appreciated in keeping students safe.

### **Bell Times**

Reminder of School Bell times and the importance of students being in class on time.

Homeroom	8.50 – 8.58 am	Break 1	11:30 – 12:00 pm	Session 4	1:52 – 3:04 pm
Movement	8:58 – 9:03 am	Locker	12:00 – 12:05 pm	Detention	3:04 – 3:34 pm
Session 1	9:03 – 10:15 am	Session 3	12:05 – 1:17 pm		
Movement	10:15 – 10:18 am	Break 2	1:17 – 1:47 pm		
Session 2	10:18 - 11:30 am	Locker	1:47 - 1:52 pm		

### **Students on school premises Before School & After School**

*Please see below an extract from Wyndham Central College's Supervision and Duty of Care Policy*

Students will be supervised for a minimum of 10 minutes before and after school. This supervision will include the following:

- Monitoring of entry or exit points and/or designated pick up and drop off areas
- Supervision of the arrival and departure of school contract buses

At Wyndham Central College yard duty supervision at the beginning of the school day will commence at **8.30am**. This supervision will include **Buses Location 1 and Buses Location 2**.

Yard duty supervision at the end of the school day will be provided until **3.30pm for all students**. This supervision will include **Buses Location 1, Buses Location 2, Shaw's Road near the Gate Location 7 each until 3.30pm**.

**DET – Detention Duty until 3.40pm.**

**Supervision is provided if students are needed for CAT/SAC resits until 4.15pm.**

If a parent, guardian and/or carer (or other authorised person) drops off or otherwise arranges for a student to be on the school premises before supervision commences at the beginning of the day, the Principal or via the Assistant Principals or the Year Level Leading Teachers will, as soon as practicable, follow up with the parent, guardian and/or carer to:

- advise of the supervision arrangements before school, and
- request that the parent, guardian or carer make alternate arrangements.

If a parent, guardian and/or carer (or other authorised person) has failed to collect the student after school, the next steps may include some or all of the following:

- Attempting to contact the parents, guardians or carers
- Attempting to contact the emergency contacts
- Contacting the Victoria Police and/or the Department of Human Services (Child Protection) to arrange for the supervision, care and protection of the student.

#### **Attendance / Non Attendance Process**

Please report all known absences to the Attendance Officer, Ms. Carol Mills by calling the College on 97414911 and selecting Option 1. If your child has been absent please send a note with your child within three working days to explain his/her absence. For further information please see the Attendance Policy on COMPASS or the Department of Education parent website.

#### **School Nurse**

A reminder to ensure all **medical plans** for your children are up to date. Please feel free to contact Ms. Claudia Jara, the School Nurse on 97414911 to discuss any medical needs. If students are unwell at school they are required to attend First Aid and the school nurse will then contact the family if it is deemed necessary. If your child calls you directly please tell them to go to First Aid for medical attention.

#### **Crossing Supervisor**

In the interest of student safety and the efficiency of the school buses, the College has a Crossing Supervisor in the bus service road (Market Road Extension) near the College basketball courts. The supervisor will be responsible for controlling the traffic and supervising the crossing of students after school.

#### **Wyndham City Council – Shaw’s Road Crossing Supervisor**

##### **Please Note:**

The Wyndham City Council expressed concern that students are **not** using the crossing and are weaving around cars trying to cross Shaws Road (stressing drivers who are having to break suddenly to avoid hitting the students or having an accident with another vehicle). Your support with reiterating to your child the importance of using the school crossing correctly is much appreciated.

#### **School Gates**

**The school gates are closed at 8.50 am** to facilitate students arriving to class on time. Students must report to the administration area, after 8:50 am, to obtain a late pass. Consequences for lateness may apply. Your child should have a note to explain a known lateness. Thank you to adhering to school policy.

#### **Bike storage at school**

It is important that all bikes are locked onto the racks with a bike lock or padlock and chain. This message has been communicated to all students however we would appreciate it if you could remind your son/daughter of this requirement. A bike helmet is also a legal requirement. Please note: Skateboards and scooters are not allowed in the school grounds.

#### **Environmental duty**

To assist our school community in being aware of their environment all year levels are responsible for certain picking up rubbish in areas within the College and also take part in an environmental program to help reduce litter. Could you please encourage your child to be environmentally conscious within the community and use the rubbish bins provided. As a further support please be aware of the amount of packaging being brought to school when preparing student’s lunches.

#### **Emergency Management Plan**

The Wyndham Central College Emergency Management Plan is tested regularly to ensure the safety of all students, staff and school visitors in the event of an emergency situation. As part of this plan we conduct four emergency drills per year, two lock down drills and two fire drills and students are made aware of when a drill is about to commence.

A lock down drill will be completed this week.

## YEAR'S 7, 8 & 9 REPORT

In the first three weeks, we've been full-steam ahead since our return from the school holiday break. Over this time our students have been finalising their career action plans, and our year 9s have completed work and their passports, choosing subjects for next year. They have attended a subject expo and had the opportunity to speak to teachers about programs available to them in the senior school. I know many of our year 9s will be working at an accelerated pace next year and will embark upon a VCE subject. Congratulations to the students that have made it through our rigorous process.

Our building spaces have had a revamp over the break and we now have enclosed spaces in our Federation, Latrobe and Deakin which have greatly enhanced these buildings. This has created additional room to run programs, and decreased student congestion in particular areas which has had a positive impact on the climate of these teaching spaces.

The highlight of this term for me so far has been the Year 8 camp (see Year 8 report). I was fortunate enough to spend the day with the students and staff camping out at 'Forest Edge' in East Gippsland. It's so great to see kids out of their classroom school environment, making new friends and participating in activities that push them out of their comfort zone. It was a cold day but the rain held off and the students got to participate in a wide range of outdoor programs. Thank you so much to Mr. Lynch and his team for running this event I'm sure a lot of happy memories were created. My favorite activity always is the damper making, yum!



Finally the annual Parent Opinion survey was recently sent out to a number of families whose names were generated from a random sample from our data base. If you received one of these we'd really appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback. All surveys are anonymous, and the information we receive back goes into our whole school planning. If you need assistance completing the survey please contact the school office and we will arrange a time for you to come in and fill out the survey at school with one of our administrative assistants, or multicultural aides if language support is needed.

**Megan Taylor - Assistant Principal – Years 7, 8 & 9**

### YEAR 7 REPORT

Welcome back to all year 7's for term 3.

Congratulations to the 32 students who received an overall achievement average of over 80% for their semester 1 reports. All students were presented with certificates at our year level assembly.

Congratulations must also go to the 34 students who had 100% attendance for semester 1. These students were also awarded a certificate and VIVOs (our reward system). Well done to 7E for winning our term 2 attendance competition.

Last term the Humanities department held A Night at the Museum evening. The student's work was amazing displayed in our school gymnasium. The students showed pride in their work. For this evening, there were two categories of award for each year level- People's Choice Award and Humanities Faculty Leader Award. Congratulations to the following students:

#### 1st place People's Choice Award:

Kenoli Madawala, Ruby Braxton and Madelynn Ramm

2nd place People's Choice Award:

Romina Kooshi, Ava Draisley and Evie Christopher

3rd Place People's Choice Award:

Lily Taylor, Abhimani Jayarathna, Ashley Schellhorn, Varsha Vel and Birutawit Gebreegziabeher

1st place Humanities Faculty Leader Award:

Tiarn Worrall and Erin Madden

2nd place Humanities Faculty Leader Award:

Naw Yae Ku Htoo, Anda Sudampanthorn, Khitam Hawli and Mooyae Wah

3rd place Humanities Faculty Leader Award:

Law Lah Htoo, Eh Hser Shee, Brenden Pham and Dino Nguyen

Beginning this term, we have introduced a year 7 Student of the Week. A student will be awarded each week for outstanding achievement. Congratulations to our first recipient Evie Christopher, who received the award for receiving the highest overall achievement average for semester 1 of 92%.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me via COMPASS, or through your child's tutor teacher.

**Ashley Rowe - Acting Assistant Principal / Year 7 Level Leader**

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## YEAR 8 REPORT

It has been another big start to term 3 at Year 8.

In the first week back from holidays 113 students attended the Year 8 Camp to Forest Edge – Neerim East. Students participated in a variety of activities including hut building, campfire cooking, rock climbing, high ropes course and flying fox. Every student who attended challenged themselves and put themselves out of their comfort zone. As year level leader I'd like to thank and congratulate these students for their hard work, participation, amazing contributions and growth during the camp.



I encourage all students to partake in events to build up their own capacity as learners and citizens within the college and empower others to do the same. Students remaining at the College completed an activity that also extended their capacity as learners and citizens in our revised Year 8 program.

All WCC students should have received their paper copy of their Semester 1 Reports first day back this term. If you have not received your child's report, please feel free to download off COMPASS or contact your child's tutor teacher who can print off an additional copy.

The Year 8 Team will be handing out certificates for Academic Excellence as well as Outstanding Attendance in next week's assembly as well as VIVOs (our reward system) for demonstrating the school values of Respect, Excellence and Cooperation. Additionally, for those students who need further academic support we will be contacting home to arrange Support meetings – a letter will be out later this week.

And finally, a quick reminder about uniform and lateness. Please ensure your student is wearing correct winter uniform when attending school in the morning. The college continues to send a strong message regarding uniform, we encourage the continued support of our WCC families to build 'pride' in our school.

If you require any further information or assistance please contact your child's Tutor Teacher via COMPASS.

**Scott Lynch – Year 8 Level Leader**

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## **YEAR 9 REPORT**

Welcome back to all year 9 students for term 3.

Already this term, students have participated in Pathways week and Year 9 students completed Student Subject Counselling to select their electives for 2020.

Congratulations must go to the 25 students who received Academic Excellence awards during assembly for their overall achievement average for their semester 1 report being above 80%.

Well done to all students with 100% attendance for the semester and to 9E for winning our term 2 attendance competition.

This competition will continue in term 3 - Attendance Matters!

We have recently introduced a 'Student of the Week' award. Each week during our year level assembly, the student of the week will be announced, with the recipient receiving a certificate as well as 1000 VIVOs. VIVOs are our reward system that supports students to reach prize levels for recognition of values.

As always we look forward to working with your children during Term 3 to become the best they can be.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me via Compass, or through your child's tutor teacher.

**Ashley Rowe - Acting Assistant Principal / Year 9 Level Leader**

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## **YEAR'S 10, 11 & 12 REPORT**

In the last newsletter, I wrote about teachers working with students to reflect on school reports and putting a plan for improvement in place. I'm hoping that all students, with the support of their parents, are actually implementing these plans to assist with their academic improvement for the semester.

On Friday the 16th August, in the college gymnasium we have the Year 10 Illuminate "Night Market" occurring that Mr Conway has mentioned in his Year 10 report. This will be a great opportunity for parents/carers to see the final product of all of the student's hard work and families are most welcome to attend (more information will be available shortly).

On Monday the 5th August at 6.15pm in the College Auditorium, we will be conducting a formal VTAC briefing for parents/carers of Year 12 students, which will outline the processes for applying for TAFE and university placements for 2020. Mrs Kathy Karlovic (Pathways and Transition Leader), Ms Rebecca Sandlant, (Year 12 Year Level Leader) and Mr Bryan Woollard, (Senior Years Assistant Principal) will be in attendance on the night.

Classroom teacher's complete Progress Checks approximately every 5 weeks for VCE/VCAL for students who have outstanding class work and are at risk of not obtaining a satisfactory pass for a particular subject. Please discuss these checks with your son/daughter and ensure that the necessary work is completed and submitted to the appropriate teacher to ensure a successful outcome. The checks will be placed on COMPASS in the next 2 weeks for your information.

As our Year 12 students are approaching the homeward stretch, now is the time for them to put in their biggest effort and do their very best in regards to their final year of their schooling. School pressure starts to build when you fall behind with your school work so I ask that students assist their anxiety levels by being prepared and organised.

#### A message to our Year 12's

Year 12 students, now is the time to get motivated and stay motivated. Reflect on your school reports and the feedback given to you from your teachers and adjust your goals accordingly.

If there is anything that we can do to support you then please don't hesitate to contact your child's Tutor Teacher for further assistance.

**Bryan Woollard - Assistant Principal – Years 10, 11 & 12**

## **YEAR 10 REPORT**

Welcome back Year 10 students and parents and I hope you have had a restful break, as Year 10 students needed the energy as they have hit the ground running on what is going to be a rewarding and productive Term 3. The final semester of year 10 is dedicated to building the foundation for success in Year 11 and 12. Throughout Term 3 & 4, Year 10 students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs in addition to their classes to enhance their education, build their passion for learning, and broaden their concepts of future education and vocational opportunities.

Students started the term with the *Illuminate: NexGen Challenge*. The goal of the *NexGen Challenge* is to build 'creative, confident, and capable' young people. Students were required to identify a social issue impacting the Wyndham area and work collaboratively to develop an innovative solution. Over the week, students had the opportunity to collaborate and learn from a host of local and interstate mentors, including 2015 Young Australian of the Year Adam Mostogl. The week ended with a celebration evening to showcase the prototypes that the students had created. As the Year 10 Year Level Leader I am proud to say how impressed I was with the effort and inventiveness of our students.

The following awards were presented:

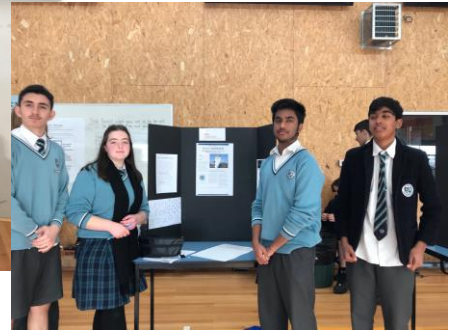
- Best Business Case OpenDoor (Team 18)
- Best Pitch Deck Presentation TAP&GO (Team 12)
- Best Pressure Cooker Submission Rivengers (Team 2)
- Best Short Challenges Rehab Lab Vic (Team 13)
- Best Marketing Strategy Fresh Start (Team 23)
- Best Demonstration Hall JANKKANS Family (Team 21)
- Student Choice: Best Idea TAP&GO (Team 12)
- Student Choice: Best Team Eco Werribee (Team 11)





The top teams finished as follows:

- 8th CBT (Team 14)
- 7th Melbourne Drug Association (Team 24)
- 6th Rivengers (Team 2)
- 5th Rehab Lab Vic (Team 13)
- 4th Eco Werribee (Team 11)
- 3rd TAP&GO (Team 12) 81.63%
- Runner-up OpenDoor (Team 18) 85.98%
- Overall Fresh Start (Team 23) 88.61%



Congratulations to the award-winning teams and individual students for their participation and developing invaluable life skills even when they may have been out of their comfort zone.

The next step will be the Twilight Market on the 16th of August. The Twilight Market will provide Year 10 students completing Industry and Enterprise with a real and authentic application of Enterprise, Leadership and Innovation Skills and ensure the plans developed and skills acquired during the Illuminate Challenge are put into a real and authentic experience. Please come along to support the Year 10 students at the upcoming Night Market.

Well done Year 10! As always, it was a privilege to liaise with our Year 10 families and wider Year 10 community, thank you to all the staff and families who came to celebrate the Year 10 student achievements. Students are now creating their prototypes in preparation for the *Year 10 Night Market* on the 16<sup>th</sup> August. Please see the newsletter for further information. I look forward to seeing you there.

In Term 3, Year 10 will also be completing:

- **Financial Literacy training.** Financial Literacy training will be starting over the next few weeks. Students will participate in daily training sessions over a week and this is facilitated by the Smith Family. On completion of the training, students will receive a Certificate I in Financial Services. All students should have already returned their permission form with their Unique Student Identifier (USI). *If you need assistance with this please contact your child's tutor teacher.*
- **TAC Road Towards Zero Excursion.** As part of our upcoming Road Safety unit, students will be traveling via bus to the Melbourne Museum to take part in the interactive TAC Towards Zero workshop. *A friendly reminder that this excursion is a Department of Education compulsory event, and that your child will need a completed permission form to attend.*

It is a school requirement for all students to be in full school uniform each and every day. Every day at school is important and it's *'not ok to be away'*. If your child is absent for any reason, please call the school or log it on COMPASS with the reason for absence, please note that a note must be returned to school within 3 days.

As we prepare for 2020, subject selection passports are now overdue. If you could not attend the Subject Selection Counselling day on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July, and have not signed your child's subject passport, can you please contact your child's Tutor Teacher as soon as possible. Failure to submit a signed passport may result in your child missing out on their top subject preferences.

**George Conway – Year 10 Level Leader**

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## **YEAR 11 REPORT**

Last week Year 11 students took part in the pathways expo and had their final subject selection counselling interviews on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July. Students attended information sessions with different TAFE's and university providers and were able to collect information and ask questions, related to different courses and careers. They also attended a presentation delivered by the Defence Forces, in which they were given many different options, in a broad range of areas. All of these activities have led to students making informed choices and supporting them in their post secondary pathway planning into university, TAFE and employment.

Career Action Plans plans have now been finalised for the term. These should have been submitted to tutor teachers and will form part of the next reports. All course selection documentation for next year is now **overdue**. Please ensure this is all completed and handed into tutor teachers as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in your child missing out on their subject choices.

It is important to remind students and guardians that there are clear guidelines in regards to VCE promotion. In order for students to progress from Year 11 to Year 12, they must satisfactorily complete at least nine units in Year 11, including the two units of English. 100% attendance is expected unless a medical certificate is provided. If you have any questions or concerns about your student's progression you can contact their tutor teacher or myself.

A reminder that this Term we are focusing on students being at school on time and in the correct uniform. Please make sure your son/daughter leaves home in the correct winter uniform so they can arrive at school on time and ready to learn.

**Chad Cook - Year 11 Level Leader**

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## **YEAR 12 REPORT**

### Tertiary Information Session

On Thursday 18th of July, Year 12 students went to Victoria University to see the Tertiary Information Session on how to apply for courses from VTAC. Students took part in a session about what VTAC does, how to apply for VTAC, preference and scholarships. A parent session will be held at the College on Monday 5th of August at 6:15pm.

### Holiday Classes

Please be aware that some Year 12 teachers will run holiday classes during the next school holiday break. More information will follow in a separate letter later in the term.

### COMPASS Emails

I would like to remind all parents and guardians to the emails I have been sending via COMPASS. These emails have included important information for Year 12 students. Can you please ensure that your email address is up to date as it is important that all families receive this information in a timely manner.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Year 12 Parent Teacher interviews were held last Thursday 25th of July. If you were unable to make the interviews, can you please contact individual teachers and make a time to meet with them to discuss your child's progress.

### SAC RESITS

This is just another reminder that if a student misses a SAC they must automatically sit the sac on the following Monday.

**Rebecca Sandlant - Year 12 Level Leader**

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## **TEACHING & LEARNING REPORT**

We are well into Semester 2 and into another rewarding term ahead. Students have settled into their learning for Term 3.

### Report Reflections and Goal setting

Students began the term by reviewing their Semester 1 Reports, self- assessing areas of strengths and weaknesses and setting goals to ensure they maximise their success this term. Students need to revisit these goals regularly and ensure that they are on track to achieve them. Parents can support this by having conversations about their child's goals this term and encouraging the benefits of perseverance with tasks they may find challenging.

### Ongoing Revision and Cornell notes (Homework Policy)

As an AVID school, teachers support students to continue to build their ability to effectively complete all steps of the Cornell note-taking system. We ask parents/carers to support and encourage your child at home with completing the Cornell note steps using the 10- 24- 7 method. That is, reviewing and revising the day's notes every night, formulating questions the next night and creating summaries at the end of the week. This is a well know and well-researched method of supporting students to achieve success. It increases students' confidence and improves exam results. Organisation is also important for success and students are required to ensure that they have a well- organised binder that they bring to all classes. This ensures that they have all equipment and work is kept together.

### Homework Club

A reminder that Wyndham Central College offers Homework Club every Monday and Wednesday in the AVID Centre from 3:20 pm to 4:20 pm. Homework Club is facilitated by experienced classroom teachers and provides support to students who self-nominate to attend. Teachers support students who may be having difficulty with their classwork, assignments, homework or who like a place and space in which to work that is supported by teacher assistance if required. Please encourage your child/children to attend Homework Club and use this valuable resource.

### Course selection 2020

Course selection is well underway and students in conjunction with their families and teachers are selecting subjects and programs for Years 10, 11 and 12, in 2020. Parents, please contact either your child's tutor teacher, Compass Manager Mr. Navin Pratap, or our Pathways Leader Ms. Kathy Karlovic or Pathways Assistant Ms. Pina Siragusano if you have any concerns around course selection. Year 8 students will be undertaking the Year 8 into Year 9 course selection 2020 process later this term.

### International Program and Cultural Exchange

This year we have been joined by three students from Gredos San Diego in Madrid. They joined the Wyndham Central College community on 5th July and were with us until 31st July. This cultural exchange is part of our school program promoting and building strong international relations and supporting the development of language and cultural understandings. The students attend school and experienced life as an Australian student in an Australian family. It has again been a wonderful opportunity for all and we thank our host families who make this cultural exchange possible: the Fraser – Smith family, the Martin family, and the Anderson family.

The international cultural exchange continued as we welcomed 18 eighteen Japanese students along with four staff visiting from Mito High School. We hope that this will be an enriching cultural and language experience for our visitors and all members of the Wyndham Central College community.

### Learning Disposition

In our newsletters, we have been looking at the importance of nurturing a positive learning disposition and its role in student learning success. Students will require a complex combination of dispositions, skills, values, and attitudes to be successful future-oriented lifelong learners. Personal qualities like resilience and the ability to communicate and collaborate with others become important elements of our learners' identities. So far, in this series, we have looked at the following learning dispositions:

- Persistence
- Agility and Flexibility
- Motivation and Drive to Learn

Development of these dispositions is fundamental for students to develop an awareness of the way they learn and establish future-focused attitudes to learning, critical if they are to be able to become lifelong learners. In this newsletter, we will focus on

#### **Metacognition- thinking about thinking.**

**Metacognition** is the process of examining our thoughts as we engage in them. It is commonly referred to as "thinking about thinking". In the classroom, it is characterised by students' ability to plan a strategy for producing the information that is needed, the awareness of their own learning process and their ability to reflect on and evaluate the productiveness of their own thinking. Students need to be able to question themselves about their own learning strategies and evaluate the efficiency of their own performance in order to be successful lifelong

Metacognition is a big word for something most of us do every day without even noticing. Reflecting on our own thoughts is how we gain insight into our feelings, needs, and behaviours — and how we learn, manage and adapt to new experiences, challenges, and emotional setbacks. It is the running conversation we have in our heads, mentally sounding ourselves out and making plans. More and more studies are suggesting that kids who are taught to use metacognitive strategies early on are more resilient and more successful, both in and out of school.

Children who are taught to think of themselves as being “good” or “bad” at a particular task can have a fixed mindset that makes them passive in approaching a challenge: either they can do it or they can’t, but they aren’t likely to think they can change that outcome.

Teaching children to become more metacognitive helps them move from a fixed mindset that leaves little room for change to a growth mindset, which promotes self-awareness and resilience.

Helping your child learn to work through difficult situations (or homework assignments, as the case may be) without becoming overwhelmed or giving up supports the development of metacognition.

For example:

- A child who struggles to stay on task is likely to feel frustrated and anxious when they are assigned a long essay. If they are unable to reflect on why the project upsets them, they might think, “Everyone else is having an easy time. I’m just bad at writing.”
- A child who has learned to reflect on their own learning process, on the other hand, could look at the situation and say, “I always feel like this when I have to work for a long time. Maybe if I take breaks every hour or so I’ll feel less stressed out.” By taking a metacognitive approach, the child is able to manage their frustration and find a better way to approach big assignments in the future.

Metacognitive skills are not only excellent tools for children as they enable children to self-regulate when faced with challenges, especially unexpected ones.

For more information visit <https://www.verywellfamily.com/what-is-metacognition-3288021>

**Connie Faranda – Assistant Principal – Teaching & Learning**



Welcome to semester 2. Our STEM academy have some amazing STEM projects taking shape in our classrooms across multiple year levels.

Robotics & Coding at years 9 and 10 and Games Design at year 10, are being experienced and enjoyed by students at the college this Semester.

It’s also a very exciting opportunity for year 8 students at the college as STEM Academy 2020 – Expressions of Interest application process will soon be underway.

On August 7, during their regular year 8 assembly, I will be making a presentation to students about the STEM Academy program available to them in 2020/2021. This presentation explains to students the merits of STEM Education, and how it can help them gain some of the most important 21st Century skills required by young people going forward into their futures and working lives. These 21st century skills are discussed regularly by employers, teachers and government departments throughout Australia and the world.

These skills include, but are not limited to, such things as:

- Digital Technologies Literacy
- Collaboration (working with groups of people)
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Creativity

This presentation is the first step in the expression of interest process for interested students wanting to join the STEM Academy program in 2020.

At Wyndham Central College, we provide a unique and unmatched STEM education experience where we create a tutor group at year 9.

The group of successful, like-minded students enrol in the year-long STEM ACADEMY ELECTIVE where they work on STEM projects. These projects form a basis for learning and developing the above mentioned 21st century skills. Whilst we have our STEM elective, this unique elective and is only available to students in 9S.

Students who complete projects in the STEM Academy have access to:

- Hands-on, project-based curriculum that involves problem-solving, design-thinking and prototyping across the Science, Maths, Digital Technologies, Design & Technology & Arts curriculum
- Learning spaces that are flexible and support collaboration
- Cutting-edge technological equipment and specialist programs that may include:
  - Robotics and coding
  - Electronics and engineering
  - 3D modelling and printing
  - Designing solutions, ideas and products

All year 8 students are encouraged to apply as the only requirements are:

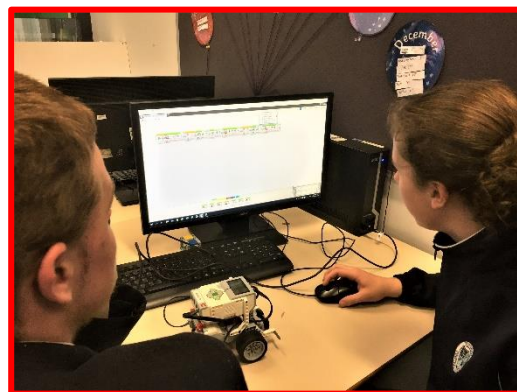
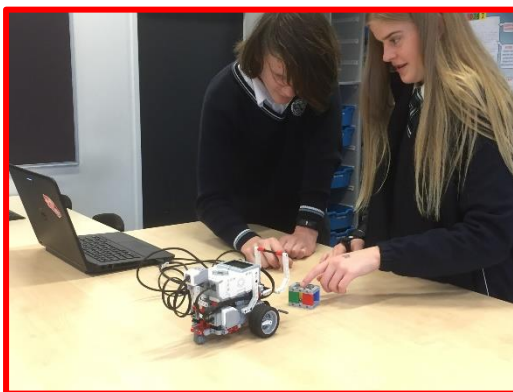
- A commitment and desire to work hard and succeed
- A passion for Science, Technology, Engineering / Design and Maths
- The belief that you can develop skills (e.g. leadership, problem solving, design thinking etc.)
- The desire to design, make, construct, create and/or develop new projects
- Desire to use technology to problem-solve and gain 21st century skills
- Desire to participate in social action projects in the local and wider community

The program run then runs for two years. Successful applicants are expected to continue into 10S for 2021.

#### Admission into the STEM Academy – the process

Students interested in participating in the expression of interest process for the program will:

- 1) Complete an application form that must be signed by a parent / guardian.
- 2) Applicants may be invited to attend an interview with their parent/guardian to discuss their suitability for the program.
- 3) Applicants will be invited to answer a short growth mindset survey.
- 4) Successful applicants will be notified by the end of Term 3, 2019.



**Marty Olmos – STEM Academy Coordinator**

[olmos.martin.m@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:olmos.martin.m@edumail.vic.gov.au)

# SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAM REPORT

## Year 9 Spanish Class – Excursion to the National Gallery of Victoria

The Year 9 Spanish class (as part of the cultural aspect of the Spanish language program) experienced some of the Spanish art that the National Gallery of Victoria has on display. Students made a link between the culture and language to further understand the history of the Spanish language. Thank you to Ms. Silva for helping out on the day



## Spanish International students from our sister school Gredos San Diego in Madrid Spain

As you may be aware Wyndham Central College have had a relationship with our sister school, Gredos San Diego in Madrid Spain for many years and once again this year, we have had visits from three Spanish students. Our International students arrived in Melbourne on the 5th of July and departed for Madrid on the 31st of July. During their time in Melbourne, they experienced the Australian culture by eating Australian food and being exposed to Australian activities with their host families. They spent two weeks with their host families over the school holidays and then two weeks at the College with their assigned buddies.

On Monday the 29th of July we held a farewell evening where they expressed through a presentation, their experiences during their time with the Wyndham Central College Community. Thank you to our school leaders Ms. Gagatsis, Ms. Faranda, Ms. Cork, Ms. Silva and Mr. Wokulski and also Consulate from Spain Mr. Manuel Moreno for their support.

The International students Hugo Vera Grossocordone, Iván Bedmar Moreno and Silvia Barbero Fuentes together with our host family students Andrew Anderson, Braith Martin and Charlie Fraser-Smith, all received WCC certificates for their participation in the International program. I would like to thank these host families for making it a magical experience for the Spanish International students who have said that our Wyndham Central College community is awesome and that we truly embrace the school values of Respect, Cooperation and Excellence.

I also like to thank the Wyndham Central College buddies Kristen Baker, Jasmine Dyson, Brooke Datton, Grace Sebza, Kyran Donato, Nicholas Bottrell, Indhira D, Neel Pate, Chelsea Veal, Sharni Arenas, Mia Maurice and Cayden Preston for taking the time to spend time with the International students during their time at the College and making it an enjoyable experience for them by supporting our students in expanding their language skills and cultural experience.



If you are interested in joining our International family and would like to host in June/July 2020 and be part of this amazing experience, please contact Mr. De-Leon on 9741 4911.

## Japanese International students from Mito High School in Japan

Wyndham Central College annually have visitors from Mito High School in Japan. The International students arrived in Melbourne on 25th of July and depart for Japan on the 5th of August. I would like to thank Ms. Yamane and Mr. Bosevski and the buddies for looking after the Japanese group while at WCC. There will be more information regarding our Japanese visitors in our next newsletter.

## Expression of Interest to be in 8C the Spanish Immersion class in 2020

As you may be aware on August 12th we start the process for the 'Expression of Interest' (EOI) for any student interested in joining the 8C Spanish Immersion class in 2020. Therefore, if your child is currently in Year 7 this year, they have the opportunity to express interest by approaching their language teacher for an EOI form. Once an EOI form has been filled in you will be contacted by the Language Immersion leader for an Interview time.

**Alex De-Leon – Spanish Immersion Leading Teacher**

[de-leon.alex.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:de-leon.alex.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)



### **CAREER NEWS**

Please find attached Career News



### **SPORTS REPORT**

There is no Sports report for this Newsletter. Stay tuned for the report in our next Newsletter.

**Emily Bellin - Sports Co-ordinator**



### **Student Representative Council**

Your student representative council has had a busy start to the term. We have broken down some feedback from the survey results of Year 8 and Year 11. This has led to the SRC working on proposals that will be submitted to the principal, assistant principals, year level leaders and school council. The students are also in the process of revamping the canteen menu displays, and informing students about options to make ordering food easier and quicker for all.

Coming into this term the SRC will be focusing on reviewing the Attitudes to School Survey Data, and meeting with teachers and leaders in the school around key issues and solutions, we would love to hear more feedback from students in general, so make sure you touch base with your representatives and use the suggestion box located in the CAFÉ area.

There will be a new episode of WCCTV coming out in the next few weeks, which will highlight the wonderful performances during Multicultural Week last term, keep an eye out for this!

If you would like to learn how to edit, film, or just generally want to be involved, please speak to Ms. Alexander or any of the school leaders. Our new Media Club takes place every Tuesday break 1 in the AVID Centre.

Our school captains have been busy throughout this year, learning skills to support themselves and others. In the Bankwest Mentorship program the students have been developing their leadership skills. In these sessions, they learn how to communicate effectively to lead a team. They learn how to be better advocates for the students in the school. Recently, they have had the privilege to participate in a Leadership challenge in Brisbane. This conference was designed to test the school captains and have them apply many of the skills they learned throughout the year in a new environment.

We have also developed Leaders in the junior year levels who participated in the High Resolves leadership program. Students examined how our own experiences influence the perceptions we hold of ourselves and others, and the impact it can have on our interactions. Students developed the ability to recognize divisive views and behaviours, and practiced responding in ways that are inclusive.

**Breanna Alexander & Gabriel Hensby-Robinson – SRC/Student Voice Leaders**



This year Wyndham Central College will be performing **Battle of the Bands the Musical on August 13th, 14th and 15th at the College Auditorium at 7pm.**

Students have been rehearsing exceptionally hard to put together this magnificent show. Join Wyndham Central College's wonderful cast of 80 plus students as they tell you the story of two bands who were just born to battle it out!

Tickets can be purchased on [Trybooking.com](http://Trybooking.com) and the link can be found on the school website.

Prices are as follows;

Adults \$18.00

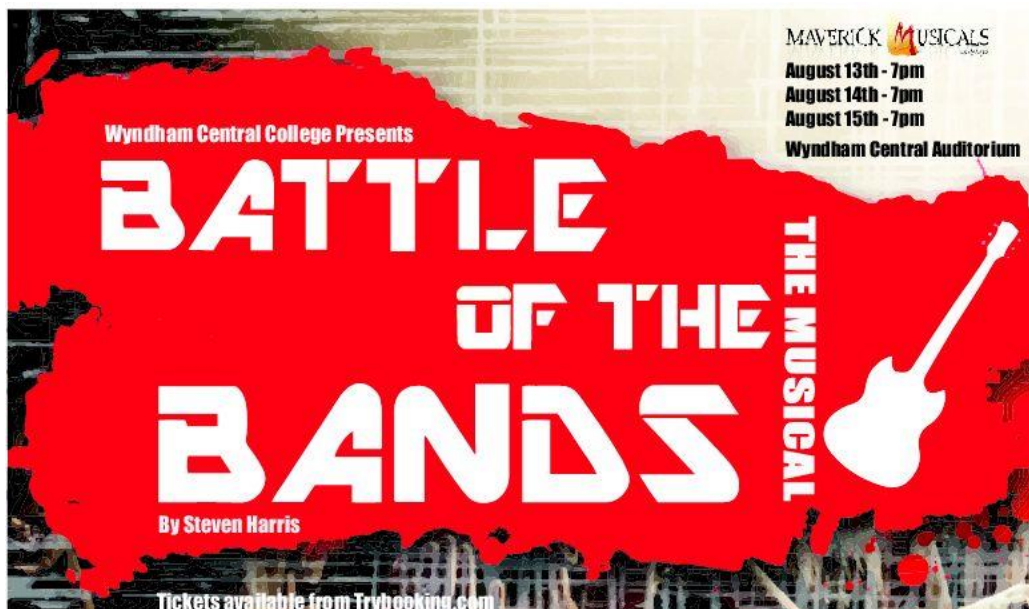
Student \$10.00

Preschool Child (0-4) are free but ticket still needs to be bought for seating allocation.

Family (2 Adults and 2 Children) - \$48.00

We can't wait to see you there!

**Louise Walter - Musical Director'**





# CLUBS

All students are welcome to attend **Homework Club** on Mondays & Wednesdays from 3:03pm - 4:20pm in the AVID Centre. Students will be able to access assistance from teachers in all subject areas. Please note that Humanities has now been added to Homework Club on both a Monday and Wednesday after school. Due to demand a second silent study class has also been provided to students.

Term 3 Year 12 Tutoring Club begins. Please see Ms. Sandlant for details - A letter was sent home to Year 12 parents late last term. If you require a new copy please contact the College on 9741 4911.

## Homework Club Every Monday and Wednesday



**Improve your marks**

**Personalised assistance**



**Get one-on-one help from your awesome Teachers !!!**

## BREAKFAST CLUB Every Tuesday and Thursday

Wyndham Central College Breakfast Club  
Tuesdays & Thursdays between 7.50am- 8.30am at T1  
All students are welcome

- Foods that will be provided:
- Toast – butter, vegemite, jam and honey
  - Crumpets – butter, vegemite, jam and honey
  - Pancakes - butter, vegemite, jam and honey
  - Cereals & Fruit



We look forward to seeing students at Breakfast Club!  
No costs to students – Sponsored by LET'S FEED



Gabriel Hensby Robinson – Breakfast Club Co-ordinator

## ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

### ADMINISTRATIONS OPENING HOURS

Wyndham Central College Administration is open:

- Monday to Thursday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
  - Friday 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
- College phone number – 9741 4911  
Please see/call the administration office for any queries/assistance

### CHANGE OF CONTACT DETAILS

If you have recently changed your contact details, please update them either through COMPASS or at the school, to ensure we can work together to support your child.

### CAN WE ASSIST YOU WITH A PAYMENT PLAN?

In some cases families may require a little assistance to meet the financial obligations of education, even though at Wyndham Central College we endeavor to keep the costs associated with education down to a minimum. If we can help you please feel free to call us on 9741 4911 to find a suitably agreeable time to make an appointment with the Business Manager Netta Ferlazzo to discuss how we could assist.

### SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL SHOP –Semester 2 reminder

Please note that once families receive their booklists, unwanted books can be sold via the SSS. There will also be an opportunity to purchase some text books on this website as soon as we are able to furnish them with the correct ISBN coding.

### THE COLLEGE OFFERS BPAY

Pay family payments online fast, just enter the BPAY Biller Code, your reference number, the amount and the payment date, and you're done; this code is found on the your family statement.

If you require a payment to be allocated to a particular item you will need to send an email to the college with your request before you make payment. Biller code and reference numbers now appear on your family statements.

A reminder to parents, when making a BPAY payment, could you please notify the College either by phone or email as soon as the payment has been made if there is a specific item you would like this payment to be allocated towards.



### VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

For the safety of staff and students, all visitors to the school must report to the front office (including parents) and log into Compass. In case of an emergency, we need to be aware of who is on site.

### STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

If your child needs to leave school early for an appointment, parents are required to send their child with a note in their planner advising the reason and time they need to leave. The student must take the note to their Year Level administration office in the morning to receive an early leaver's pass. This pass can then be shown to the teacher at the time they are leaving class and then also to the Attendance Officer located next to First Aid.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

Please find attached – opportunities for student and/or families

Federation University - Open Day Notice & Careers Newsletter

## Wyndham Central College Commits to Child Safety

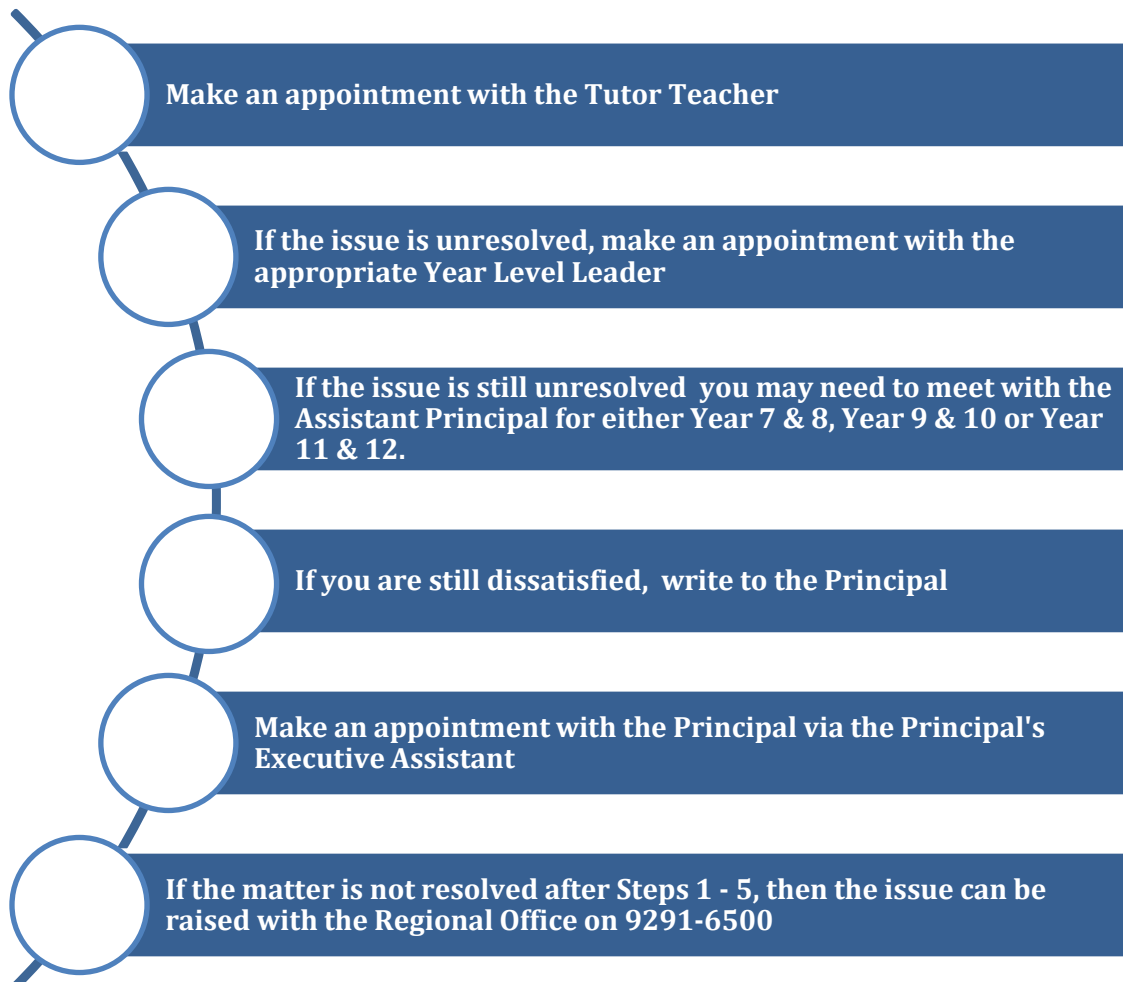
Child safety is very important to all at Wyndham Central College. Everyone in society has a moral responsibility to keep our young people safe and to protect them from harm. It is everyone's responsibility within our community to raise awareness about the importance of child safety at Wyndham Central College. Our College community affirms this commitment.

### Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

- ☐ Wyndham Central College is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all young people at our College. This is the primary focus of our educational delivery, care and decision-making.
- ☐ Wyndham Central College has zero tolerance for child abuse.
- ☐ Wyndham Central College is committed to providing a child safe environment where young people are safe and feel safe, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Particular attention will be paid to the cultural safety of Aboriginal children and children from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, as well as the safety of children with a disability.
- ☐ Every person involved at Wyndham Central College has a responsibility to understand the important and specific role he/she plays individually and collectively to ensure that the wellbeing and safety of all young people is at the forefront of all they do and every decision they make.
- ☐ All staff, volunteers and contractors at Wyndham Central College must adhere to the Child Safety Code of Conduct.
- ☐ Wyndham Central College is part of the Safe Schools Coalition Australia.
- ☐ Wyndham Central College actively teaches the Respectful Relationships Curriculum.

## **COMMUNICATION/GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

If you have something you wish to communicate with the College, this process will support each party to achieve a successful outcome.



# Wyndham Central College Career News

## No. 10 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019

The Wyndham Central College Career Newsletter will be published fortnightly to keep students informed of events relating to their career pathways. It will include information regarding tertiary pathways – University & TAFE – as well as employment/industry pathways. The Careers Office, in the Student Services Centre, is a resource centre for our students with current institutional handbooks and brochures at their disposal. Students are invited to visit, browse and question. An open door policy exists to ensure students make informed decisions about future pathways. Year 12 meetings to complete pathway applications – VTAC University & TAFE, Private Course, Pre- Apprenticeships etc – will commence in the next week. Year 9-11 Pathway Meetings took place last term. Parents/guardians are welcome to take advantage of the services provided by the Pathways & Transitions Leader. Appointments can be made to discuss the future pathways of their children. The Years 7 to 11 Careers Programs will conclude in the next couple of weeks

### REMINDERS...

- **Tertiary Information Service Event (TIS) – Year 12 Students:** Commencing the VTAC Application process took place on Thursday 18 July
- **Pathways Week for all Year 9, 10 & 11 Students took place last week: Year 9 – 11 Pathways Expo (Academic & Applied Focus/Defence Force Presentation), Year 10 into 11 Subject Tasters, Years 9 – 11 Subject Expo & Subject Selection Counselling (SSC's) for Years 9 – 11 Students/Parents.**
- **Year 9, 10 & 11 Passports for 2019 Subject/Program Selection Were Due last Thursday 25 July**
- **Year 12 VTAC Briefing – Monday 5 August, Session 2**
- **Year 12 VTAC Parent Briefing – Monday 5 August, 6.15pm in the Auditorium**

### CareerNews Key Dates & Reminders

#### **For all VCE Students:**

##### Monash Information Evenings

When: Running until September.

at various locations across Victoria. Visit: <https://www.monash.edu/information-evenings>

##### Deakin Information Evenings

Learn more about Deakin's course options in dance, drama, photography and visual arts and the benefits of studying a Bachelor of Creative Arts and how this prepares you for a creative career.

Date: Thursday 19th September

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Where: Burwood Campus

Cost: Free

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/creative-arts-and-design-information-evening-tickets-60257504819>

### Swinburne Advice Nights

Swinburne have some great advice about VTAC applicationis and establishing your preferences here: <https://www.swinburne.edu.au/choose/articles/questions-about-preferences>  
However you can learn more about the preference process as well as Swiburne's offerings with their advice nights coming up in September:

#### **Wantirna Advice Night –**

When: Tuesday 17th September

Time: 4 pm – 6 pm

To register – <https://www.swinburne.edu.au/choose/events/wantirna>

#### **Hawthorn Advice Night –**

When: nesday 18th September

Time: 4pm – 6 pm

To register –

<https://www.swinburne.edu.au/choose/events/hawthorn>

#### **Aviation Advice Night –**

Wed 18th September

6 pm – 8 pm

To register –

<https://www.swinburne.edu.au/choose/events/aviation>

## **YEAR 12 STUDENTS: Important VTAC Deadlines – for 2020 Course Applications**

### Applications:

Open – Monday 5th August at 9am.

Close – Monday 30th September at 5pm.

### SEAS Applications

Open - Monday 5th August at 9am.

Close – October 11th at 5pm.

### Scholarship Applications

Open – August 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

Close – October 11<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

### Change of Preferences

Close – 14th December at 4pm for December 2019 offer.

Close – 20 December 2019 at 4pm for 2020 offers.

## **News & Updates**

VTAC course applications for 2020 are opening on Monday, so if you are in Year 12 and intending to study at a Victorian University, TAFE or independent tertiary college next year, it's time to ensure that you have started your VTAC application preparation.

All applications are made on the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) website ([www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)) as VTAC receives, collates and forwards all student applications to institutions including special consideration (SEAS) requests, scholarship applications and any other relevant or required documentation.

Here are some tips to get started:

### **Research!**

- Research the courses on offer in your chosen field and preferred institution(s).
- Use 'CourseSearch' on the VTAC website and VTAC App (see quick link) as the primary source of course information.

### **Refine your list!**

- Establish your course preferences (you will do this after visiting open days too) and ensure you are aware of the selection criteria for each course that you wish to apply for, as each course and institution's entry requirements do vary i.e. interview, admission tests, audition, folio presentation, or extra form/documents that need to be completed. Note: This information can be found on each college website. Important: Take note of all relevant dates and deadlines.

### **Register!**

Create a VTAC user account and have all your details close at hand i.e. educational history, student numbers to ensure that you complete your application accurately.

Place your eight courses in your order of preference. You won't be able to save a draft of your application, but you will be able to change your preferences after it is completed. Remember: It is important to list your 'dream course' at the top of your preference list, as adjustment factors can affect your overall score and you will always be offered a place in the highest course in your list for which you meet the requirements.

\*Important to note: You have until 30th of September for a 'timely' application where the normal application fee is \$36.00, after this date the fee increases to \$113.00.

Handy tip –

The 'How to apply' page on the VTAC website is very helpful and may answer any questions you may have. You will also find some very useful YouTube VTAC video links about applying for courses, SEAS, scholarships, the offer process and changing preferences.

A handy resource to download at your app store –

VTAC App: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/vtac/id1119361879?mt=8>

## **CASPer Test for Teaching**

The CASPer test is an online tool designed to evaluate key personal and professional characteristics of all applicants applying for courses in Medicine, Veterinary Science and Education. The test measures traits like professionalism, ethics, communication and empathy, reviewing characteristics that make for successful students and graduates.

It runs for 60-90 minutes and comprises of 12 sections. Each section contains either a video-based or word-based scenario followed by a series of 3 open-ended questions. Test takers are asked to type in their responses within a 5-minute time limit.

The CASPer Test is compulsory for students wishing to apply for degrees in teaching, so it is important to be aware of the test dates, fees and technical (computer and internet) and security requirements you will need to follow.

You will need to register for your test at least three days before your preferred test date and time to account for identity verification and payment processing timelines.

If you have any education courses on your list of preferences, please visit the CASPer website to diarise your test date and read further on test preparation: <https://takecasper.com/dates-times/>

## Open Days 2019

INSTITUTION	DATE	TIME	CONTACT DETAILS
<b>Australian Catholic University</b> Melbourne Campus Ballarat Campus	Sun 11 Aug Sun 25 Aug	10am – 3pm 10am – 2pm	1300 ASK ACU Email: <a href="https://www.acu.edu.au/student-life/experience-uni-before-you-start/open-day">https://www.acu.edu.au/student-life/experience-uni-before-you-start/open-day</a>
<b>Box Hill Institute of TAFE</b> Box Hill Campus Lilydale Campus	Sun 25 Aug Sun 15 Sep	10am – 3pm 10am – 3pm	1300 269 445 <a href="http://www.boxhill.edu.au/openday">www.boxhill.edu.au/openday</a>
<b>Chisholm Institute</b> Dandenong	Mon 16 Dec	5pm - 7pm	1300 244 746 <a href="https://www.chisholm.edu.au/open">https://www.chisholm.edu.au/open</a>
<b>Deakin College</b> Geelong Campus (Waurin Ponds & Waterfront) Melbourne (Burwood) Campus <b>Deakin University</b> Geelong Campus (Waurin Ponds & Waterfront) Melbourne Burwood Warrnambool	Sun 18 Aug Sun 25 Aug Sun 18 Aug Sun 25 Aug Sun 4 Aug	9am – 3pm 9am – 3pm 9am – 3pm 9am – 3pm 10am – 2pm	1800 334 733 <a href="http://openday.deakin.edu.au/">http://openday.deakin.edu.au/</a>
<b>Federation University of Australia</b>			1800 333 864 <a href="https://federation.edu.au/openday">https://federation.edu.au/openday</a>
<b>JMC Academy</b>	Sat 24 Aug		1300 410 311 <a href="https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/open-days">https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/open-days</a>
<b>La Trobe College</b> Melbourne (Bundoora) <b>La Trobe University</b> Shepparton Campus Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus Albury-Wodonga Mildura Campus Bendigo Campus	Sun 4 Aug Fri 2 Aug Sun 4 Aug Sun 18 Aug Sun 14 Aug Sun 25 Aug	 3pm - 7pm 10am - 4pm 10am - 2pm 4pm - 7pm 10am - 3pm	1300 135 045 <a href="https://www.latrobe.edu.au/openday">https://www.latrobe.edu.au/openday</a>
<b>Macleay College (Collins Street Melb)</b>	Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	9.30am – 1pm	<a href="https://www.macleay.edu.au/openday-">https://www.macleay.edu.au/openday-</a>

			<a href="#">melbourne</a>
<b>Melbourne Polytechnic</b> Preston Campus	Sun 18 Aug	10am – 3pm	9269 1200 <a href="https://www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/open-day">https://www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/open-day</a>
<b>MIT (Melbourne Institute of Technology)</b>	Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	10am – 2pm	<a href="http://mit.edu.au/open-day">http://mit.edu.au/open-day</a>
<b>Monash University</b> Peninsula Campus Clayton & Caulfield Campuses Parkville Campus	Sat 3 Aug Sun 4 Aug Sun 18 Aug	10am – 3pm 10am – 4pm 10am – 3pm	1800 666 274 <a href="https://www.monash.edu/open-day">https://www.monash.edu/open-day</a>
<b>RMIT</b> Bundoora City & Brunswick Campuses	Sun 4 Aug Sun 11 Aug	10am – 4pm 10am – 4pm	9925 2260 <a href="https://openday.rmit.edu.au/">https://openday.rmit.edu.au/</a>
<b>Swinburne University</b> Hawthorn	Sun 28 July	10am – 4pm	1300 SWINBURNE <a href="https://www.swinburne.edu.au/">https://www.swinburne.edu.au/</a>
<b>University of Melbourne</b> Parkville Dookie Werribee	Sun 18 Aug Sun 22 Sep Sun 20 Oct	10am – 4pm 10am – 4pm 10am – 4pm	1800 801 662 <a href="https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/">https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/</a>
<b>Victoria University</b>			1300 171 755 <a href="https://openday.vu.edu.au/">https://openday.vu.edu.au/</a>
<b>William Angliss Institute of TAFE (City)</b>	Sat 3 Aug	10am – 3pm	1300 ANGLISS <a href="http://www.angliss.edu.au">http://www.angliss.edu.au</a>
<b>SAE Creative Media Institute</b>	Sun 11 Aug	10am – 2pm	<a href="https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events">https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events</a>
<b>Collarts</b>	Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug	10am – 3pm	<a href="https://www.collarts.edu.au/open-day">https://www.collarts.edu.au/open-day</a>

## Career Focus: Medicine – Surgeon

There are many areas of Medicine that you can undertake your training and work in, for example; Paramedicine, Pathology, Medical Practitioner, Ophthalmology, Pediatrician, Anesthetist and the list goes on! Training usually starts with an undergraduate degree in Medicine or Biomedicine and then post graduate study follows in a specialist area.

One specialist area in medicine is to become a Surgeon. Surgeons treat diseases, injuries and deformities by using a range of different methods and instruments, and may specialise in a particular field, such as cardiovascular or plastic surgery.

Surgeons:

- Operate on patients to repair injuries, fix deformities, treat disease and improve function.
- Examine patients to determine medical state and surgical risk.
- Prescribe pre-operative and post-operative treatments to patients including sedatives and antibiotics.
- Analyse patient medical history, allergies and examination results to decide the best courses of action.
- Refer patients to other medical specialists and exchange relevant medical details.

Surgeons can work in private practice alone or with fellow medical practitioners, in a group practice, in community health centres or at a (public or private) hospital. They work in cities, suburbs and rural towns. There are a number of specialisations of surgery:

- Brain Surgeon
- Cardiovascular Surgeon



- Orthopedic Surgeon
- Plastic Surgeon

The important personal requirements to be a surgeon are:

- Good communication skills
- Ability to exercise high ethical standards
- Compassionate towards others
- High level of motivation and self-discipline
- Excellent hand-eye coordination

To gain entry into undergraduate courses in medicine, you usually need to gain your VCE with particularly good results. Prerequisite subjects, or assumed knowledge in one or more of English, mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics are normally required. Some universities offer medicine as a double degree and may have different prerequisites and some have flexible entry requirements.

Training also involves experience in approved hospitals and the passing of examinations leading to membership of the appropriate professional college. Specialist training programs and examinations are administered by the colleges. Entry into these courses is highly competitive and based on a combination of academic achievement, performance on the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) and a structured interview. The UCAT is a two-hour computer-based test which assesses a range of mental abilities identified by universities as important to practicing in the fields of medicine, dentistry and clinical sciences.

Entry into the graduate-entry courses is based on prior completion of a bachelor degree, performance in the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) and a score resulting in a semi-structured interview. Studies in behavioral, social, biological and physical sciences and humanities are likely to enhance performance in the test, and are offered at most universities.

Following course completion, graduates must undertake one year of full-time employment (internship) at a recognised teaching hospital to be able to gain full registration as a surgeon with the Medical Board of Australia. Prior to commencing clinical placements, students will be required to undergo a National Police Check and a Working with Children Check and provide evidence of immunisations. It is a legal requirement that graduates to be registered with the Medical Board of Australia before practicing in any state or territory in Australia.

Below is a list undergraduate tertiary study options to consider as a pathway into the specialist area you wish to enter:

<b>Undergraduate Degrees</b>				
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Campus</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>ATAR</b>
<b>Australian Catholic University</b>	Ballarat, Melbourne	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	3 Years	59.50
<b>Deakin University</b>	Geelong, Melbourne (Burwood)	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	3 Years	72.50-80.15

<b>Federation University</b>	Berwick, Gippsland, Ballarat, Off-campus	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	3 Years	53.05-63.85
<b>La Trobe University</b>	Melbourne	Bachelor of Biomedicine	3 Years	65.15
	Melbourne (Bundoora)	Bioscience (Diploma) / Biomedicine (Degree)	2 Yrs 8 mths	NA
	Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	3 Years	62.55-72.0
<b>Monash University</b>	Clayton	Bachelor of Biomedical Science	3 Years	90.35
		Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Biomedical Science	4 Years	91.45
		Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine: (School Leaver Entry)	5 Years	84.30
		Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine: (CSP Bonded School Leaver Entry)	5 Years	NA
		Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine: (CSP Extended Rural Cohort School Leaver Entry)	5 Years	83.10
<b>University Of Melbourne</b>	Parkville	Bachelor of Biomedicine	3 Years	94.05
<b>Victoria University</b>	Footscray, St Albans	Bachelor of Biomedicine	3 Years	81.20
<b>Chancellors Degree</b>				
<b>Monash University</b>	Clayton	Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Scholars Program)	3 Years	98.05
<b>University Of Melbourne</b>	Parkville	Bachelor of Biomedicine (Chancellor's Scholars)	3 Years	99.9

Note: \* NA – Not applicable or under 5 offers were previously made or not available, ATAR is based on the lowest selection rank plus adjustment factors or the lowest ATAR (excluding adjustment factors).

(As subjects, course structures and requirements can vary between institutions, it is necessary to contact your chosen institution for further information).

Sources: VTAC, Good Universities Guide.

## Career Profile – Medicine

**Name:** Dr Adam Peterson

**Current Position:** Advanced trainee in Gastroenterology and Hepatology

**Can you tell us where you studied, how long your course duration was and where you undertook your work experience (if any) to become qualified as a Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist?**

After school, I studied a Bachelor of Physiotherapy for 4 years at Monash University. Following this, I undertook a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery as a post-graduate student at Monash University for a further 4 years.

I could then start working as a doctor, completed my medical internship at Austin Health and stayed on there to complete basic physician training over 3 years. I am now 1 year through advanced training in gastroenterology and Hepatology. This training position takes 3 years and I will then be a qualified Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, although many people undertake further training or research in an area of interest before commencing full time clinical work.

**Whilst you were studying at secondary school, did you know that medicine is what you wanted to get into?**

I knew I wanted to attend university and initially thought about engineering. My chemistry teacher in year 12 suggested I consider a career as a pharmacist after I expressed an interest in organic chemistry. I didn't really know what I wanted to do, but preferenced multiple health degrees (pharmacy, physio, medicine, biomedical science) in my university application.

**What do you love about your job?**

I get to learn something new most days! I get to apply my understanding of science to diagnosing and managing a wide variety of medical conditions. I get to help patients through some of the most difficult periods in their lives and hopefully do this in such a way that returns them to the things that they love to do.

**What personal requirements would you say are necessary in your position?**

As you can see above, the training to be a doctor takes a really long time! A commitment to not only that training but to lifelong learning is mandatory for a career in medicine. Being a skilled communicator is essential for dealing with patients, but also other doctors, nurses, pharmacists and allied health professionals that make up the wider healthcare team. Having leadership skills is also necessary, as often the doctor takes a leading role in those teams, but these can be learned over time.

**What are the challenges of your job and the best ways to overcome those challenges?**

Working in life or death situations can be very stressful! Developing healthy strategies to deal with stress and to learn from your experiences helps you become better at meeting those challenges. It's important that you not only have support at work, but also at home. This job can be very busy, I often have 14-hour work days, and/or work for 2 weeks at a time without a break! Time management is essential for looking after sick people, but also looking after yourself as you juggle ongoing study, teaching, research, as well as your own family and friends.

Mrs Kathy Karlovic  
Pathways & Transitions Leader  
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