FUTURE COLLEGE EVENTS

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

New School Logo
When planning for our 90th Birthday celebrations some of the original art work for the Gilmore College for Girls’ logo were found. A range of options were discussed prior to selection of the logo we have used for the past twenty years. Both the students and staff expressed an interest in adopting a new logo. We have undertaken a process of consultation with the students and we now have the new logo in place. Over the next term our uniform items will feature the new logo. I am really pleased with the contribution students have made in regard to this change.

In addition to the logo the students also asked if the college council could look at the blazer. We had discussion with the uniform supplier and he has shown us a new design using a lighter fabric. The students are happy with the look of the new blazer and College Council is still considering slight changes.

International Baccalaureate Learner Profile
The focus for this newsletter is: Caring. We show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us. (IB Learner Profile).

Students examine ways in which they demonstrate a caring manner, what it means to be caring and why caring makes the world a better place. If people are compassionate and caring that helps create a positive community. Being a caring person leads to being a successful 21st century citizen. Ensuring students know and understand what it means to be a caring person will lead to the creation of a caring environment at our school.

IB MYP Personal Project
Students in Year 9 are commencing their Personal Project. At present they are working through activities to help them identify an area or project that they really want to explore. I have explained to students that this is one of those rare times that they actually get to choose to explore something they are passionate about.

Parent Information Meetings
There are a number of meetings planned for parents and students in the senior school so please make time to attend. It is really important that you are involved and support your daughters in their decision making.

Handy Hint
We have noticed that some of the girls are wearing the school shirt with a pink logo. This has occurred due to the use of bleach. Families are advised to use a stain soaker such as Napisan to preserve the color in the shirts.

Parent Opinion Survey
Each year the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development conducts a Parent Opinion Survey to see how each school is performing and responding to their school community. If you have received a Parent Opinion Survey please fill in the survey and return it in the sealed envelope. The process is strictly confidential. The DEECD analyses the data and returns a report to us. To encourage your participation, 2 movie passes are provided in a random draw for return of surveys.

University Open Days
I have listed a lot of the university Open Day dates in this newsletter. Whilst it is important for all year 12 students to attend and learn more about prospective courses it is also a great opportunity for all students to go along and see the tertiary environment, collect brochures and participate in the many activities on offer. There may be something that sparks their interest as a future career.

Bette Prange
Principal

EDUCATION QUOTE: “I’ve always tried to go a step past wherever people expected me to end up.”
Beverley Sills
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

With the mid-term break well behind us it is business as usual for students in the Junior School. The last three weeks have seen many positives both inside and outside the classroom. At the same time there are some issues that need to be addressed.

I wish to strongly stress to all parents and students the importance of ensuring that students have a spare key to their locker. Since the start of term I have cut a number of locks off student lockers. Spare keys can be left with me or the student’s Circles teacher.

I have been concerned regarding the inability of students to explain absences during the first three weeks of this term. Parents must ring the school by 9.30am if their daughter is absent. Parents of students who are absent will receive an SMS message from the school on the morning they are absent if we have not been advised of the absence. The issue of lateness has also become a concern in the last three weeks. I have rung a number of families and explained the need for students to be at school by 8.40 for an 8.50 start. Many of the students who are late are driven to school by members of their family or family friends. It is important that students arrive on time so learning can begin at the very start of every lesson.

The next two weeks will see a range of excursions across the Junior School. On the 5th of August the Year 9’s will be going to ‘Chemist for a Day’. On the 6th the Year 8’s will be ‘community Yarn Bombing. On the 10th the Year 9’s EAL students will be going to the zoo. Ms. Tait, Ms. Rischitelli and Ms. Stockdale are to be congratulated for organising these excursions and expanding student interest and knowledge.

Mr Reilly - Junior School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

The weeks seem to be flying by this term and we are already into Week 4. It continues to be very busy in the senior end of the school with a range of excursions and leadership programs occurring over the next few weeks.

Reflecting back to last week the Year 12 Biology class went to Victoria University in Werribee to undertake an experiment in gel electrophoresis on which formed the basis of their next SAC.

On Friday 31st July the Year 12 Legal Studies class attended a series of lectures provided by the Victorian Law Foundation. Speakers included Rob Hulls, the former Attorney General of Victoria, Nick Gadd from the Victorian Law Reform Commission and Paul Dore the current Juries Commissioner. In the afternoon our students undertook a talk and tour of the Old Melbourne Gaol focusing on crime and punishment and participated in a Mock Court at the old Magistrates’ Court in Russell Street. Fatma Kassem, Penelope McDonald and Dalena Dang were active participants in the trial and also asked some very interesting questions during the presentations. They are to be commended for their efforts on the day.

Coming up with week we have two leadership programs happening. On Tuesday 4th August a group of ten Year 11 students are participating in three session that focus on building leadership skills in our students. The other is the Year 10 All Girls’ Secondary School Conference which will be held this Friday 7th August at Pascoe Vale Girls’ Secondary College. We congratulate Yelena Grigorovitch and Macy El Hawli of Year 10 who have been involved in the organisation of the day.

Year 12 students will begin to lodge their VTAC applications this week receiving support from Ms Mueller the Career’s Counsellor, Ms De Barros the Student Welfare Councillor and myself to ensure this process is smooth and effective. We remind parents and guardians of Year 12 students that there will be a VTAC Information Evening on Thursday 13th August commencing at 6.30p.m. in the LCC. It is vital that parents and guardians attend to understand the tertiary application process and what it will mean for their daughter.
Year 10 students and their parents/guardians are reminded that their VCE Information session will be held on Wednesday 12th August at 7.00p.m. in the LCC. It is critical that families make the effort to attend to receive information about the subject selection process and programs for next year.

I congratulate Faiso Mohamed and Rayan Eless of Year 11 who were both successful in their scholarship applications through DHS.

Finally I would like to commend the senior students for their efforts in wearing the winter school uniform. Please email me voidis.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au or ring the school on 9689 4788 for an appointment.

Helen Voidis  
Senior School Leader

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability - 'Collection Notice'

All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability this year.

The Data Collection is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.

All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.* Data will continue to be de-identified prior to its transfer to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. No student’s identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Prange on 9689 4788 or the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on (03) 9651 3621.

For questions after 7 August 2015, please call the Australian Government Department of Education and Training on 1300 566 046.

For more information on Schedule 3 - Amendments for the collection of data on students who are persons with a disability Australian Education Regulation 2013, please see: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#_Year 10 Work Experience Reports.

My work experience placement was at the ‘The Social Studio’ and ‘The Cutting Table Café’. I have previous connections with this company through my family so it was very easy to gain a placement. The location was a mere 5 minutes’ walk from my place, so I arrived on time every day.

The Social Studio is a fashion label, shop and café that incorporates Australia’s diverse cultures into its work. It provides young people with work and skills opportunity as well as RMIT classes in fashion. Most of my time there was spent in the upstairs studio making a tote bag, using industrial machines which took me two days. I had the general responsibilities of cleaning up the studio room, and putting all the equipment we had used in their right places. We also had a day in the kitchen and Café to expand our hospitality skills. I completed kitchen hand duties like cutting vegetables and fruit as well as making burger patties.

I particularly liked the carefree and open relationships the workers had between themselves because it made for a very welcoming and friendly environment. The employees and students were from all different backgrounds. Most of them could not speak fluent English so it allowed me to see the patience the volunteer teachers had with their students.

Nonetheless, there were some downsides such as the fact that it was a very crowded and loud environment on the days the RMIT classes were run.

Coincidentally I also met a former student of Gilmore who is now making her own clothes and I have to say that they were beautiful. She came in everyday and with the help of volunteer teachers she made skillfully crafted lace dresses.

The employees constantly asked whether or not this was the career path I was taking, so I have thought about this thoroughly as well as talked it through with my parents. I have come to the conclusion that fashion is not the career path I would like to be on. However, I have gained many worthwhile skills such as communication and team work through the various tasks I completed with other people at the studio.

Fatima Nazari 10 B

I completed my work placement at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience at The University of Melbourne. During the week I learned how to do multiple things regarding lab work; I worked in one of the best labs of the world. Most of my time was preoccupied at the lab. The Mental

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Health Division conducted many research projects in order to understand what caused illnesses and diseases to find better ways to diagnose and treat them. Ultimately, they completed their research at the lab of the Florey Institute.

One of the many things I was associated with was being a part of the conference; the speaker being Peter C. Doherty; an Australian veterinary surgeon and researcher in the field of medicine. He also received the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine. It was a great experience to attend the conference and hear about his past experiences which helped me refine what I want in the future.

I also worked with the rats and mice in the lab which were used to perform many tests on including tests for Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, Bipolar disorder, depression etc. However during my placement I was only there to perform tests on behavioural drugs and reactions. I believe that I was very lucky to be able to be a part of a rat surgery where we removed the rat’s brain from its body. I was also able to cut thin layers of tissues of brain with a special machine, and label the parts of the brain.

I made many catheters to use during the surgery; catheters are little pipes that could be inserted to the rat during an operation to blow out excessive blood. Overall I really enjoyed my time at the Florey Institute of Neuroscience; I met lots of new people and felt very welcomed by all. Due to this experience I have decided to apply for The University of Melbourne in the future in hope of a placement in medicine.

Hicret YARGI 10B

The highlight of the work placement was definitely the real feel of working in an official kitchen. I think that is was amazing and overwhelming to be part of such an organised public service. I do volunteer work regularly and it fascinates me to observe the conduct of different individuals.

The worst part of this experience had to be waking up at 7 am. For me I struggled on the Monday, but I got better at it. I feel like this job is perfect for me and would benefit me in the future. This experience has helped me to see that this is what I want to do in the future. I was actually offered work there on the weekend, because they understand the hours don’t fit with school, I am still considering this and seeing what the future will bring. But I am super glad and relieved that they liked my work so much to offer me a job.

I would obviously like a job in this area not only is it convenient and close to home, but the location is right next to perfect public transport.

To be honest, I’m not entirely sure what educational requirements are needed for the position, being offered. I’m not too sure what they want from me. I think that having some kind of certificate in hospitality would be an additional benefit.

Maddie Azzopardi 10 B

During the last week of term 2, the Year 10 students participated in the work experience program. We explored working life and all it entails for one week.

The place I chose to be a temporary worker was ‘100 Story Building’, a non-profit organisation that focuses on children and secondary students to improve their writing and broaden their imagination. I have had connections to 100 Story Building since meeting the CEO in 2011. Before the work experience, I was a regular who attended their after school program on Thursday ‘Level 87 Book Club’ and in 2011 was part of the first edition of ‘Early Harvest’ (2011), a magazine consisting of writings by young students. I worked with two other students named Bill and Riley. I got to know them very well and am still in contact with them.

During my time there I was to prepare specific gears for certain workshops, clean the area, write blog posts for their website and get ideas to develop the building. The big question they asked us to answer by the end of our time there was what is 100 Story Building? I have already had a big picture around the place, but decided to extend my answer by the end of the week. As days passed I helped children who looked like they were experiencing difficulty and completed the tasks that were instructed. I quite liked the bright atmosphere to assist children and be in a place that suited me based on personality. What appealed to me about the place was that it doesn’t look much from the outside, but contains so much more inside, with shelves of books, wooden tables filled with pencils and teacups filled with sharpeners. As a social enterprise they rely on volunteers to come help so the only thing required is a Working with Children certificate.

In the end I did extend my answer. I discovered that the 100 Story Building is a place to improve writing and imagination, but they also encourage students to build their confidence to share their writings or imagination and build up their self-esteem. This job might be for me,
but I realised I am slightly uncomfortable around children younger than the age of 10. However, I would like to have a job similar to this and work in a place that suits my personality and makes me feel comfortable.

Darvey’s Work Experience Recount 10 B

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Careers Chat

VCE Plus - La Trobe University
La Trobe University’s extension studies program is designed to offer high achieving Year 11 VCE students the opportunity to commence their University studies while completing year 12.

Students enrolled in VCE Plus choose a pair of first year university subjects to study whilst completing Year 12 (one subject per semester). VCE Plus is offered at all La Trobe campuses and subjects are delivered online, face to face, or a combination of both.

VCE Plus Information Sessions are being held at La Trobe University Open Days

Bundoora – Sunday 9th August at 12.15 pm, ELT 2

For further information Ms Mueller has a limited number of brochures for interested students.

Extension Studies RMIT
VCE Extend allows high achieving students to get a head start at university by offering fully accredited VCE extension studies. In 2016 students can choose from the following subjects:

- Calculus
- Computer Science
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Geospatial Science and Surveying
- Project Management

Science VCE Extend subjects are taught at the City campus and are counted towards students VCE and provide a boost to their ATAR. There are no fees or HECS for our VCE extension studies. For students who live regionally our Science, Computer Science and Environmental Science offerings are also available online - making extension studies accessible to all. Applications will be accepted from Monday 10 August until Monday 7 December. To register your interest before applications open please visit the RMIT Extension Studies page.

Further Info: Kat Aspinall Tel. 03 9925 8787 Email: hes.vce@rmit.edu.au

Also at RMIT....

Women in Engineering Event
For National Engineering Week, RMIT is hosting a special event for women considering a career in engineering. In conversation with guest host Sandy Rea, students will hear from a range of engineers and gain a real insight into what it would be like to be an engineer.

Date: Sunday 9 August–RMIT Open Day Time: 1pm
Location: Storey Hall, Building 16, Level 7, RMIT University City Campus

If you have any questions please see Ms Mueller.

Health Chat

DonateLife Week Sunday 2 August – Sunday 9 August 2015: Have the chat that saves lives. Discover, Decide, Discuss organ and tissue donation.

Last year, 1,117 Australian lives were transformed through the generosity of 378 deceased organ donors and their families who agreed to donation proceeding. Nearly 4,000 tissue donors helped to improve the lives of over 5,500 tissue transplant recipients, some receiving multiple grafts.

From Sunday 2 August to Sunday 9 August 2015, Australians are being urged to discover the facts about organ and tissue donation and to make and register their donation decision on the Australian Organ Donor Register. Most importantly, we are asking everyone to ‘have the chat’ with loved ones to make sure their donation decision is known. In the same way that we discuss what we want to have happen in the event of our death, we also need to talk about whether we would like to
become an organ and tissue donor. It’s a conversation we can have today, that helps prepare our loved ones should they be offered the opportunity to proceed with organ and tissue donation.

In Australia, the family will always be asked to confirm the donation decision of the deceased before donation for transplantation can proceed. Families that have discussed and know each other’s donation decisions are much more likely to support organ and tissue donation proceeding. DonateLife Week is a great opportunity to remind your family about your donation decision, and to ask and know their decision. Any day this week is a good day to have the chat with your family and close friends.

References and for more information, visit www.donatelife.gov.au

Michelle Hynson –
Adolescent School Health Promotion Nurse
Monday and Tuesday

Altona North Primary School

Reunion

An AFTERNOON TEA will be held in the ANPS School Hall.

Cresser Street. Altona North
Sunday 23rd August 2015
1.30pm to 4.30pm
Fingerfood and beverages supplied.
Please come along. Register and RSVP by Friday 7th August 2015.
Phone 9391 4233 or email altona.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Seeking Accommodation for International Students.

We have a number of students from China who are seeking accommodation from next term while they study at the College.

Homestay is full board accommodation for which a student pays $250 - $300 per week. It includes providing a room, study facilities, meals and a family life.

The benefits to a family include cultural exchange and new experiences, fulfilment in helping young people and the opportunity to develop ongoing, lifetime relationships. It can also give parents the opportunity to stay involved with the college after their own children have graduated.

If you would like to host a student or just obtain more information about homestay, please contact the college.

Mr Walker –
International Student Coordinator (ISC)
Gilmore College for Girls