Message from College Principal

G’day everyone!

The end of the year is rapidly drawing near and with it, the end of another HUGE year for our Learning Community. Our Year 12 students are finishing their time with us; some with exams, others finalising their VCAT commitments. We wish all our students leaving us the very best for the bright futures that await them, we remind them to keep in touch with us as we always love to hear from them as they make their way in the world. We are confident that they will equip themselves well wherever life leads them.

Our College has been buoyed by the positive direction given us from the Education Department and the additional resources we have been allocated. After much consultation within the College including some great input from our students, we will continue to bolster our support programs and we will create new pathways positions in both of our junior campuses. Thanks to extra funding, we will be able to maintain other programs that may have otherwise finished.

We have endeavoured to make ‘Student Voice’ a higher priority in our College and with the help of our friends, The Smith Family, we have been able, over the course of the year to provide some great opportunities for our Student Leaders.

This work culminated in the Healthy Living Expo, held at our Churchill Campus where the whole College gathered for the event. This was the idea of our students and largely planned and coordinated by them. At the end of the day we all assembled for a College photograph which may be a first for our College. This day was a great achievement and symbolically so important for our Learning Community. I was so impressed by the positive way our students attended and participated in this day.

Before long, Head Start will signal the beginning of the 2016 learning year. 2016 will be a year where the design of the new Morwell Campus will take shape and our College eagerly awaits the building plan.

As always, 2016 will offer new challenges and opportunities, we are confident that together we can continue on our positive way as an integral and proud part of the Morwell and Churchill Community.

I would particularly, like to thank our College Council and the wonderful team at all of our Campuses for their good hearted dedication to our students and families.

Thank you all for your support and input this year, please accept my best wishes for the festive season and my hope that you all enjoy the holiday period.

Take care everyone,

Anthony Rodaughan
University Campus News

Year 12 Celebrations

Last week our Year 12 students celebrated their last day of high school on the lawns of Federation University.

Students started the day with bacon and eggs breakfast (the WHO news about the dangers of processed meats only arrived this week!!), this was followed by a variety of fun activities including a fire hose, boxing rings, rolling around inside very large inflatable balls, music, fairy floss and much, much more.

The dress code for the day was fancy dress, students’ costumes ranged from funny, entertaining, to really sad.

It was pleasing to see the students let their hair down before their exams started. The day ended a year full of challenges, stressful situations and successes in the lives of our students.

We were very happy with the excellent behaviour of the cohort and we really didn’t mind the plastic wrapped items that they thought would upset the staff.

In the afternoon, our Year 12 students joined all our other students from the three Kurnai College Campuses at our Churchill Campus for a whole College photo.

Overall it was a fun way to end the formal part of our Year 12 students’ secondary schooling.

Our final farewell to the Class of 2015, will be their Graduation Dinner which takes place at the end of the VCE exams on Tuesday, 24th November.

We were very happy with the excellent behaviour of the cohort and we really didn’t mind the plastic wrapped items that they thought would upset the staff.

Churchill Campus News

Students act as Buddy Mentors for The Smith Family’s Reading Program

For the past three years, students from the Churchill Campus have volunteered as Reading Buddies for a younger student in the local community who is struggling with their reading but want to improve, in a program called Student to Student or s2s.

This year’s Year 7 Buddies have been a credit to the school. The program involves ringing their reader 2-3 times a week and listening to them read over a supplied mobile phone for 20 minutes at each session, for a total of 18 weeks. The results have been outstanding with some of the readers improving their reading age by up to 2 years over the 18 weeks of the program.

We celebrated the sustained effort of these Buddies by hosting a special afternoon tea where they were each presented with a certificate and book which had been kindly donated by Latrobe City Libraries.

Nicola Epps, Team Leader from The Smith Family in Morwell made the presentation adding that the success of the program was due to the commitment and dedication of the buddies and the wonderful support of the Volunteer Supervisors, teacher Rebecca Lynch, Pauline Martin and Robyn Irvine.

Nicola also acknowledged that such programs would not be possible without the close and much valued partnership The Smith Family has with Kurnai College.

Dee Crosby, s2s Program Coordinator with The Smith Family is interested in hearing from any students who would like to participate as a Buddy in the program in 2016. She can be contacted on 5133 9065.

We were recently very pleased to receive a visit from Catherine Andrews, wife of Victoria’s Premier, Daniel Andrews. Catherine was accompanied by Harriot Shing, Labour member of the Victorian Legislative Council, representing Eastern Victoria Region.

Catherine and Harriet were welcomed to Morwell Campus by our Student Leaders, Dante and Brendan, who then led the visitors on a tour of our campus.

They visited the Hands-on-Learning hut, where they sampled the students’ cooking for morning tea, as well as participated in some of the activities such as planting vegetable seedlings.

Catherine and Harriot also visited a Year 10 art class, where they circulated among students and spoke to them about various issues.

We also ensured that Catherine was made aware of the dilapidated state of the Hex building which is unlikely to be replaced during the upcoming re-build.

I hope she has some sway with the Premier and Deputy Premier, James Merino, who is also the Minister for Education.
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## Calendar of Events

### College Wide Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 25</td>
<td>Secondhand Stall—University Campus 3pm—6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26</td>
<td>Student Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>Report Writing Day—No Students Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 3</td>
<td>Celebration Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 4 - 16</td>
<td>Head Start</td>
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### Churchill Campus

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<tbody>
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<td>November 23 - 25</td>
<td>Year 10 Exams</td>
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<td>October 28 - November 20</td>
<td>Year 12 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20 - 26</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 24</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation Dinner</td>
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<td>November 27</td>
<td>Report Writing Day—No Scheduled Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30 - December 11</td>
<td>Head Start</td>
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