

Newsletter Precinct Campus

Date: 6 February 2014



Key dates:

Thurs 13 Feb 2014	Precinct Campus Photos
Tues 18 Feb	College Swim Sports
Fri 21 Feb	Walhalla Historical Excursion
Thurs 27 Feb	Midsummer Night's Dream Excursion
Mon 10 Mar	Labour Day College Closed
Tues 11-Wed 19 March	Tassie Bushfire Relief Camp
Thurs 13 - Fri 14	Wilson's Prom Surf Camp
Mon 24 -Tues 25 March	Inverloch Surf Camp

College Principal
Anthony Rodaughan

Campus Principals
Geoff Block
Nello Carbone

Precinct Office
Contact details:
PH 5132 3800
PO BOX 3411
MORWELL BC 3841

Attendance Hotline:
PH 5132 3843

Message from Campus Principals

Hello Everyone

Welcome back to the start of the 2014 school year. We hope you managed to survive the heat of January without too much difficulty. Classes have started smoothly and while there might need to be some adjustment of classes to balance numbers we will try to make sure that the changes are kept to a minimum.

Although it is something we have said before it is important we make clear right from the start that attendance to all classes is critical for students to be successful. Please remember to contact the school if a student is going to be away and make sure that teachers are seen about work that has been missed when he or she returns. Because students at the Precinct Campus are a little older we allow students to

New Staff

We have four new staff members who have started at the Precinct Campus this year.

Tony Bubnjar is an experienced Maths teacher and will be replacing Heather Ernst while she is working at Federation University.

Erin Jessep will be teaching English and English Literature. She comes to us from Maffra Secondary College where she taught for seven years and was the KLD leader for English. Troy McGarry, our new ICT support person, has been working at Warragul Regional College. He comes to us with



Nello Carbone & Geoff Block



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sign out at lunch and recess to leave the campus. Unfortunately we have just realised that there is one part of this process that does not meet the requirements of the Department of Education. Students who have not turned 18 must have permission from a parent or guardian before they can sign out. Once this permission is received it stays in place for the year. Students under 18 can collect a form to be completed and returned to the office.

extensive experience of Compass and is already working hard to ensure that BYOD can happen as smoothly as possible.

Zoe Plumb has replaced Lisa Hrvojevic and now has initial responsibility contacting parents regarding absences.

We welcome these new members of the Kurnai Learning Community and hope that their stay here will be happy and productive.

Message from Campus Principals Cont..

Wednesdays Period 5 Structured Private Study

From this week onwards it is expected that all Year 12 VCE students attend a compulsory private study session on each Wednesday Period 5. These sessions will be held in the Library and will be staffed by key subject area staff. We believe that these structured private study sessions will assist many students in settling into a private study routine at school. This has been something that we believe can be improved on and we intend to create a learning environment where it is expected that all students use their private study sessions as productively as possible.



New Students

The Precinct Campus is continuing its excellent reputation and attracting many students from several other colleges and schools around the area. These students tell us that because of their association with Kurnai students and what they say about the Precinct, they have decided to enrol with us. It is always great to hear of our students giving the Precinct such high praise.

Progress Reports

The first Progress Reports will be completed during the week starting 17th February. These reports will be available through Compass. If you are unable to access them online and would like a paper copy please contact Georgina in the general office. If you have internet access but have not yet completed the Compass logon Georgina can help you with this too.

Geoff and Nello

Parents Involvement in PBS

Any parents /guardians that may be interested in getting involved in the Precinct Positive Behaviour Support group (PBS) or would like to know more about how PBS operates at the Precinct Campus please call us and we will be happy to explain its purpose and function. If you are definitely interested in getting involved please call us and we will add you to the committee mailing list and walk you through what you should know before the next meeting. Meetings are held from 3.00pm till 4.00pm every month.

Kurnai College Swimming Sports

The annual College wide swimming sports will take place on **Tuesday 18th February**. It will be at the Moe Outdoor Swimming pool. All students are expected to participate. Permission forms were handed out in English classes. They must be returned by the due date.

Special Examination Arrangements

These are approved to meet the needs of students who have disabilities, illnesses or other circumstances that would affect their ability to access the examination.

Students are eligible for Special Exam Arrangements if it can be demonstrated that their capacity to access the examination is impaired due to a:

- Severe Health Impairment
- Significant Physical Disability
- Learning Disability
- Severe Language Disorder
- Hearing Impairment
- Vision Impairment

If you had special exam arrangements last year then you will need to renew your application.

The first exam of the year for all year 11 & 12 students doing a 3/4 sequence is the GAT and will be held on 11 June, 2014.

See me as soon as possible - Closing date is 7 March

Bernadette Cropper
VCE Coordinator

Studying Versus Homework

Most students believe that studying and doing homework are the same thing. However, they should be approached as two very distinct, separate tasks. Homework commonly consists of assignments that teachers assign to be completed at home by students. The general purpose of homework assignments is to reinforce the knowledge that you learn in the classroom. These assignments allow for extra practice, so that you can refine your skills and knowledge in a particular area.

Studying, on the other hand, refers to the time students spend on their own to go over material they learned in class. Many students think of

studying as what they do to prepare for an exam; however, it is best to set aside regular time to study to be sure you understand all the concepts you are learning in class so you do not fall behind. Studying includes making flashcards, taking detailed notes, making outlines, and reading. Over the coming weeks the Precinct's VCE students will be asked to reflect on these ideas as they map out how to effectively tackle the year ahead.

David Shields
Leading Teacher

SAC POLICY

1. Student Attendance

- a. Students must attend class on the date or dates scheduled by the class teacher for the SAC to be undertaken.
- b. A student absent on the date scheduled for the SAC **must** provide either a Medical Certificate or evidence of a valid reason attesting to their circumstance rendering them unfit or unable to attend school on that day.
- c. Students absent with a Medical Certificate or valid reason will have the opportunity to complete the SAC for grading at the **next available opportunity**.
- d. Students absent without a Medical Certificate or valid reason will not be graded for that section of the course. This will be reported as Not Assessed (NA).

2. SAC Dates

- a. Subject teachers will give students a minimum of **five** school days' notice of a SAC.

3. Sitting a missed SAC

- a. Students required to sit a SAC other than at the scheduled time must do so at the next available opportunity.
- b. Subject teachers will complete the missed SAC proforma and hand the proforma to the student immediately after the student sits the missed SAC. It is the student's responsibility to present the proforma, with their medical certificate or evidence of a valid reason to the VCE coordinator.
- c. The VCE coordinator will complete the missed SAC proforma, indicating if the SAC will be marked for a grade or not and return the proforma to the subject teacher.

4. Authentication and/or inappropriate behaviour during a SAC

- a. Authentication issues must be supported by subject teacher evidence. Such issues must be reported immediately to the VCE coordinator.
- b. All incidents of inappropriate behaviour must be referred to the Student Managers or VCE coordinator.

Bus Travellers

Families with students travelling on contracted buses - Boolarra, Hazelwood North, Hazelwood South, Yinnar, Whitelaws Track and Jeeralang Bus must travel regularly in order to secure their seat. Buses that are at capacity will be reviewed and where necessary, students will be removed off bus rolls and parents notified.

If you have any concerns in relation to this matter please do not hesitate to contact your Campus General Office and speak to Leonie Mackie.

Public Bus Travel

Students who live in Morwell and attend the Precinct Campus and are in Year 11 or 12 are eligible for free travel and will have been issued with an ID Card. If you do not have your ID card please contact the Precinct General Office.

Students who live in Morwell and attend Churchill Junior Campus are reminded that they are **not eligible** for free travel so therefore need to use their MYKI card.

Students who live in Morwell and attend Morwell Campus must live more than 4.8km by the most direct route to be eligible for free travel. All other students

who travel on public buses must use a MYKI card. Students who live in Traralgon are not eligible for free so you will need to use your MYKI card. Travellers who are not eligible for free travel who do not have their MYKI card can be refused travel by the Bus driver.

If you have any concerns in relation to this matter please do not hesitate to contact your Campus General Office and speak to Leonie Mackie.

For more information visit <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/principals/management/sbpeligibilityforfamilies.pdf>

Career & Pathways News

WOMEN IN AIR FORCE
DEFYING GRAVITY



The Royal Australian Air Force is excited to offer female students in Years 11 and 12 the opportunity to experience Air Force Aviation Careers.

High achieving year 10 students may apply, however preference will be given to those in Years 11 and 12.

Dates: 4 – 7 March 2014

Location: RAAF Base East Sale

What to expect:

- Enjoy some hands on flying experience, including mission briefings and flying an Air Force simulator.
- Have a look through Air Force aircraft.
- An opportunity to engage and ask questions of Air Force women pilot and aircrew.
- Experience Air Force life including living quarters, meals, training and a some leadership activities.
- A chance to speak with Defence Force recruiting regarding all opportunities for Air Force employment.
- There may be an opportunity to fly in an Air Force aircraft.

What you need:

- Parental permission if you are under 18 years old.
- To be studying at least one of the following subjects:
 - Mathematical Methods
 - Specialist Mathematics
 - Physics
- A willingness to extend yourself and experience things some people will never get to.
- An ability to commit to the full program - this means being able to stay for all 4 days, as well as participate in all of the activities to the best of your ability. The activities may be both physically and mentally challenging.
- Transport to and from RAAF Base East Sale <http://www.airforce.gov.au/RAAFBases/Victoria/RAAF-Base-East-Sale/?RAAF-QuvXzzhcgJm83SkNVAcH6pkA9k5dlb1>

How to apply:

All applications must be submitted online via the Defence Work Experience website. Students must have school endorsement and parental permission prior to applying. There is no cost to the student.

Applications will be assessed on merit. Successful applicants will be notified by 21 February 2014. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by 28 February 2014.

<https://defencecareers.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.listJobs&audiencetypecode=defenceworkexp>

Interested students need to come in to the careers room.

Upcoming Excursions / Camps

To ensure the smooth organization and running of camps and excursions we request that permission forms and payments be returned to the school by the due date on the permission form. This enables the purchase of train tickets, food and venue tickets etc. in a timely manner.

Event	Date	Cost	Date Due
College Swim Sports	Tues 18 Feb	No Cost	Fri 14 Feb
Walhalla Historical Excursion	Fri 21 Feb	\$10	Thurs 20 Feb
Midsummer Night's Dream	Thurs 27 Feb	\$22	Fri 14 Feb
Tassie Bushfire Relief Camp	Tues 11 - Wed 19 March	\$0	Fri 21 Feb
Wilson's Prom Surf Camp	Thurs 13 - Fri 14	\$105	Fri 28 Feb
Inverloch Surf Camp	Mon 24 - Tues 25 March	\$90	Thurs 13 March

Kurnai College Four Pillars

Engagement: *We actively participate in our own learning*

Excellence: *We do the best that we can do*

Work Ethic: *We are committed to working hard*

Relationships: *We value and respect each other*

Receive your Kurnai Newsletter by email

Email: pulis.georgina.g@edumail.vic.gov.au (subject: Kurnai Newsletter)

VCAL

The VCAL students have had a fantastic start to the school year. Students are getting to know their teachers and peers. Term one is busy for our students as they start VET, find a work placement and complete all their safety units.

Curriculum

In Literacy all students are working on a unit about helping our community. We are using the movie 'Pay It Forward' to spark our thinking about how we can help others and make a difference in our communities. In Personal Development/Work Related Skills students are learning about a wide variety of industries and are completing their OH&S units so they can go on Structured Workplace Learning (Work placement). In Numeracy, students are working on a variety of topics that will help to consolidate and further develop their maths skills. Where possible, a hands on and practical approach will be used to teach and demonstrate student's learning.

VET

Students commence their VET courses this week. Most students are excited about taking on the challenges of their courses and learning new skills. Attendance is a compulsory component of all VET courses and students are expected to be present at all sessions. If for some reason you cannot attend, please notify your training provider as soon as possible. If you have any enquiries about your VET course, please see Heather Slater in Student Services.

Structured Workplace Learning (Work placement)

From the beginning of term 2, VCAL students will undertake work placement one day a week. This will occur on a Wednesday or Friday, depending on their VET course. Students will use term one to find a suitable workplace and complete the required safety units. We are encouraging students to start to research workplaces or industries that they are interested in. Parents/Carers can help at home by talking about their own experiences in different industries or workplaces, recommending employers or businesses based on their student's interests or giving them the details of any friends, family or work contacts that might be willing to take them on for work placement.

Lates/Attendance

Attendance is vitally important for all students. Arriving to school and class on time is just as important. Teachers plan their lessons assuming that students will be in class for the entire period. Teachers will give students the work they have missed, however, students who are late or absent miss out on class discussions, sharing ideas and working with others. Arriving on time and working with others are important skills to have in order to successfully transition into the workforce. For absences and lates, please contact the Attendance Line on 5132 3811.

VCAL Student Support

VCAL students have a team available to support them with all aspects of their education and career planning. Nicole Carder is the VCAL co-ordinator (carder.nicole.r@edumail.vic.gov.au) and can be contacted to discuss any questions or concerns you might have about your student or the program in general. Each student has been allocated an advocate to assist with any issues. Julie Garden (garden.julie.j@edumail.vic.gov.au) and Todd Miller (miller.todd.a@edumail.vic.gov.au) are the VCAL advocates for 2014. The Careers, Welfare and Koorie Support team will also be available to the VCAL students throughout the year. You can contact any of these people through the main reception at the Precinct campus.

Safety equipment, footwear and clothing in Practical classes

Just a reminder that students in some areas of Personal Development/Work Related Skills require certain safety gear and foot wear/clothing. Teachers will let students know when they should commence bringing or wearing the required footwear/safety gear.

Catering students require closed in shoes (no thongs or sandals).

Wood students require steel cap boots, safety glasses and ear muffs or plugs.

Metal/HPV students require steel cap boots, safety glasses, ear muffs or plugs and cotton long sleeve shirt and pants or overalls.

Coach students will be required to wear appropriate sports wear for their practical classes.