Message from
Assistant Campus Principal - Wayne Bass

Meet the Teachers

Next week, we will have our Parent/Teacher Learning Behaviour conversations. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child’s class teacher and open up the communication channels. We know strong communication between home and school is an essential part of your child’s success. It is important for parents and teachers to be able to communicate with each other directly. Please log onto Compass and book appointments for your child’s teachers’ sessions. The front office will be staffed to allow families to update contact information and assist in any general queries. If you are unable to make parent information sessions, please contact your child’s classroom teacher to obtain relevant information.

Farewell

We, at Kurnai College Morwell, would like to take the opportunity to say ‘thank you’ to Barb Wiegandt for her contribution within our LOTE program at Morwell. Barb has spent many hours in assisting students in languages such as German and Chinese. Barb has decided to retire from Kurnai College and enjoy a well-deserved break. We at Morwell, as well from across the College, wish Barb well for the future.
Message from Assistant Principal continued……

Education Minister Visit

On Wednesday, we had the pleasure of welcoming the Right Honourable James Merlino, Victorian Education Minister/Deputy Premier of Victoria, to Kurnai Morwell Campus. Mr Merlino toured the campus, engaging with students and staff in a number of ways. Mr Merlino then took time to talk to people about Morwell Campus rebuild project and answer questions. Thank you must go to the students and staff across the campus that made his visit very informative about what we do at Kurnai Morwell.

SWPBS School Connectedness

As we approach the end of Term 1 and move into Term 2, I would like to take the opportunity to remind our community that attendance is extremely important for the success of students in their education, and I ask parents and guardians to support the school with ensuring their children attend school regularly and in a timely fashion. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are strongly encouraging families to have more involvement within the school community. Students and families who feel connected to their school are more likely to achieve a number of positive health and academic outcomes. As a PBS school, we will continue to encourage strong partnerships between school and home and the community, to build a positive learning community that allows all students to succeed in all areas.

Parent/Teacher Conversations

Our first Parent/Teacher conversations for 2016 will be held on Wednesday 23rd March from 3.30pm till 7.30pm and Thursday 24th March from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Bookings are now open and can be made through the Compass School Manager system. Anyone requiring help with this process can contact any of the College offices for assistance. The interviews provide a valuable opportunity to discuss progress and strategies for improvement and we encourage all parents to attend with their students. Students will not be required at school on Thursday 24th March unless they are attending with their parents for the Parent/Teacher conversations.
Message from Assistant Principal continued……

School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Our Campus was one of the first schools in Gippsland to adopt SWPBS. This is a system to manage the behaviours of all students across our College, and focuses on teaching the correct behaviours, rather than punishing the wrong ones. Of course there are consequences for inappropriate behaviour, however we believe that teaching the right behaviours is more successful.

We are seeking parent representation on our SWPBS committee, as parent participation is an important part of the program.

If you are interested or require further information please contact Wayne Bass at the campus.

Postcards

As many parents would already know, students at Kurnai College who demonstrate consistent high levels of Engagement, Excellence, Work Ethic, and Relationships (ie, our Four Pillars), receive postcards acknowledging their achievement.

These postcards are awarded regularly by staff, who are asked to send one or two cards each week.

This week’s recipients are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RELATIONSHIPS</th>
<th>ENGAGEMENT</th>
<th>WORK ETHIC</th>
<th>EXCELLENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Josh Bloomfield</td>
<td>Dillan Murphy</td>
<td>Jasmine Buckland</td>
<td>Riley Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayden Edwards</td>
<td>Kiara Burzese</td>
<td>Danelle Van Vliet</td>
<td>Claire Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared McMillan</td>
<td>Blair Motta</td>
<td>James Wellsmore</td>
<td>Bailey Conlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Shields</td>
<td>Ayden Coad</td>
<td>Nyalieb Chiok</td>
<td>Kaleb Chapman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Declan Wellsmore</td>
<td>Nyabiey Jiath</td>
<td>Michael Braad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brody Bunker</td>
<td>Kujulie Mahammud</td>
<td>David Molina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Caleb DeLuca</td>
<td>Sharlene Dijamco</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Insurance and Ambulance Cover

Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. These costs may be recoverable where an injury is caused by the negligence (carelessness) of the Department, a school council or their employees or volunteers.

Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or Private Health Insurance.

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

A reminder to call our absence hotline 5132 3711 preferably before 9.00 am if your child is not going to be at school. This will ensure your child’s absence is recorded correctly and you don’t receive a phone call from our office.
Year 7 News

Student Reports

As the term starts to wrap up, I would like to draw your attention to your child’s performance reports on Compass. These are an indication of the efforts made towards improvement by your child. They are not an indication of academic ability. No matter how capable the student, it is reasonable to expect a high result in their performance indicators.

Please sit down and review your child’s report with them and congratulate them on areas in which they are demonstrating "Good" and "Excellent" behaviours. You should also discuss areas in which your child is demonstrating "Satisfactory", "Concern" or "Not Satisfactory" behaviours. Help talk through difficulties and set goals for improvements before the next indicators mid-way through next term.

These are also a valuable tool to inform parent/teacher conversations. Please ensure that you are making appointments to see teachers next week and bring your child along to participate in the conversations.

If there is anything I can do to address the needs of your child, don’t hesitate to contact me.

Year 7 Team Building Day 2016

At Mirboo North Pool, the majority of Year 7’s went to the team building day. The idea of the day was to socialise with other students and it seemed to work. Kids dared to compete against Mr Swallow on Nessie. Most Year 7’s struggled to get over. Lunch was provided by the staff from Kurnai and they volunteered to cook up some sausages. Despite the cold weather, most students had a swim with their peers. Some Year 7’s played sports such as volleyball, soccer and cricket. All in all, the day was extremely fun and exciting.

Danelle Van Vliet

YEAR 7 PBS STUDENT LEADER

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
Year 8 News

With the end of term nearly in sight, it is important to point out a few reminders to Year 8 students and families.

Learning Behaviour Reports

These are now available to students and parents on Compass. Please log in and check your child’s learning progress. These reports give an overview of a student’s learning behaviour linked to our four pillars. Although this is not a reflection of their academic achievement, students who invest their energy into positive learning behaviour can make improvements in their educational accomplishments.

Parent/Teacher Conversations

These will be held on Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th March. It is important that you and your child come and discuss your student’s progress together with their teachers. You will be able to make appointments on Compass. If you have any difficulties accessing this, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any of the Year 8 Team.

Uniform

With the holidays coming up and some possible seasonal changes it is often a good time to purchase new winter uniform. Students should be in navy pants/shorts or school dress. Students should also have the correct school polo fleece or spray jacket as opposed to their own hooded tops. This is a matter of safety so we can easily identify our students within the school grounds. Uniform can be purchased at Lowes in Mid Valley or we stock a range of second hand uniform for purchase in the school office.

Equipment

Often the holidays are a good time to restock equipment. There are a number of students arriving at classes without their basic books and pens. Please check to see what your child requires and provide them with what is necessary. Students who have the correct equipment for learning are often more organised and therefore able to perform better in class.

Rules and Expectations

We expect all students to be in class, on time and ready to learn. They need to be in the correct uniform at all times and working to the best of their ability in class. The Year 8’s have been told that they should not be using their phones in class at all, unless it is their primary device. Please support the school positively in upholding these expectations. The Year 8 students who have been doing this are being rewarded with PBS tickets, which are drawn out each week in a raffle. Recent canteen voucher winners include Chichi Mohammed, Kayla Strickland and Diamond Iorangi.

Overall, I am impressed with the start Year 8’s have made to the school year. Congratulations on making it through the first term. Have a wonderful holiday, relax and take a well-earned break.
Year 9 News

Common Assessment Tasks

Students are currently completing their common assessment tasks in a number of subjects. This is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of the topic. Students will be provided with feedback which will identify areas for improvement prior to the end of Semester exams. If your child has missed a CAT due to absence, an alternate time will be arranged with the classroom teacher.

Excursions

There are a number of Year 9 excursions that have been organised. Please ensure to return forms on time. The following are due soon:

Year 9/10 Wuthering Heights – 12/4 – permission form due back 22nd March

Learning Behaviour Reports

By now, you will have received the learning behaviour report for Term 1. Please use this as an opportunity to celebrate your child’s achievements and to discuss areas for improvement. Parent/Teacher/Student conversations are next Wednesday and Thursday. We would love to see you all; including students!

Punctuality

In Year 9, we are currently focussed on ensuring students are on time to class. Students who are late to class will be required to make up the time with their classroom teacher and re-offenders will be spending time on Tuesdays at lunchtime completing the work they missed.

We are also having conversations with students about the importance of being punctual. Here are some of the reasons we believe it is important to be on time.

- You show respect for other people
- You respect yourself enough to keep your word
- You prove that you can be trustworthy
- You are appreciated for being on time
- You are regarded as a reliable person
- You are seen as a professional
- You are taken seriously and on your word
- You build a strong reputation for your character
Year 10 News

Uni Taster Days

Students attended our first University taster day in Outdoor and Environment Education and Physical Education. By all accounts the students had ‘a lot of fun’ and gained a better understanding of the requirements of the course. We are fortunate that the days are on a Thursday when most of our students are already on campus for their VCE class. So as to avoid disappointment, please return forms as soon as possible.

The days are as follows:

**Nursing, Health Science and Psychology:** Thursday 14th April

**Business:** Thursday 21st April

**Engineering and IT:** Thursday 28th April

**Art and Design:** Thursday 5th May

**Science:** Thursday 12th May

Common Assessment Tasks

Students are currently completing their common assessment tasks in a number of subjects. This is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills on the topic. Students will be provided with feedback which will identify areas for improvement prior to the end of Semester exams. If your child has missed a CAT due to absence, an alternate time will be arranged with the classroom teacher.

Learning Behaviour Reports

By now, you will have received the learning behaviour report for Term One. Please use this as an opportunity to celebrate your child’s achievements and to discuss areas for improvement. Parent/Teacher/Student conversations are next Wednesday and Thursday. We would love to see you all; including students!

Work Experience

Students are continuing to work on finding a placement for work experience for the fortnight beginning May 9th. Many students have already secured a placement and will be completing their safe@work certificate. Once a placement has been secured, indemnity paperwork will need to be signed by the employer, family and the principal prior to the student being allowed to attend work experience.
Upcoming Excursions / Camps

To ensure the smooth organisation 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Experience Days at Federation University</td>
<td>10/3/16-12/5/16</td>
<td>$NIL</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wuthering Heights</td>
<td>12/4/16</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>Back by 2pm on Tuesday 22/3/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 52 Storey Treehouse</td>
<td>14/4/16</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Athletics</td>
<td>19/4/16</td>
<td>$NIL</td>
<td>Back by 2pm on Friday 15/4/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wonthaggi HPV Camp</td>
<td>18-20/3/16</td>
<td>$55</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8 China Study Tour</td>
<td>14-30/3/16</td>
<td>$2500</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7 Coolamatong Camp</td>
<td>14-17/6/16</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
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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*
A reminder to call our absence hotline 5132 3711 preferably before 9.00 am if your child is not going to be at school. This will ensure your child’s absence is recorded correctly and you don’t receive a phone call from our office.
State Schools’ Relief
Year 7 uniform package initiative

Fact sheet for parents

The Affordable School Uniform Program

Program background
Each year, State Schools’ Relief (SSR) provides tens of thousands of children with school clothing, shoes and other essential items. For the first time SSR has received government funding so that it can help more families needing financial assistance, and ensure no one is left behind. As part of the Victorian government’s affordable school uniform program, every Year 7 government school student who is a recipient of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualifies for a uniform pack voucher. Eligibility requirements for CSEF can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

What’s included in the uniform pack?
The uniform pack includes all basic uniform items needed to start secondary school (approx. value $225):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For boys:</th>
<th>For girls:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jumper or jacket (not blazer)</td>
<td>Jumper or jacket (not blazer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE shirt x 1</td>
<td>PE shirt x 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts or trousers x 1</td>
<td>PE shorts x 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt x (long or short sleeve)</td>
<td>Winter OR summer package x 1 (as below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer package:</strong> A dress x 1 or shorts x 1 and shirt x 1 (long or short sleeve)</td>
<td><strong>Winter package:</strong> A skirt OR trousers x 1 and a shirt x 1 (long or short sleeve)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can parents who are ineligible for the Camp, Sports and Excursion Fund or who have children in other year levels receive assistance from SSR?
Yes. Parents are encouraged to talk to their school principal, assistant principal or student welfare coordinator about their situation and they will assess their eligibility. SSR can only respond to requests from schools (not from parents directly). Applications for parents requiring financial assistance for uniforms, test books or shoes are encouraged via the regular SSR service—www.sss.net.au/schools

Terms and conditions
- Only CSEF recipients are eligible for the uniform packs.
- Each student is eligible for a single uniform pack.
- A voucher is dispatched electronically to the school, uniform shop or uniform supplier on approval. The school will provide the voucher to the parent/student to present at the uniform retailer (and not at SSR).
- The order is valid for 75 days from date of issue.
- Once expired, a new application must be lodged.
- Expired vouchers cannot be redeemed.
- Each voucher specifies the individual items funded by SSR.
- No change to the items can be made unless through the school.
- Changes made in store will not be honoured by SSR.
- The maximum voucher value is $225 and any short fall will not be covered by SSR.

More information
Parents: For CSEF application details please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Schools: For SSR applications please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/ssr
Dear Parents and Carers

In order to provide a single point of call for student attendance, from 2015, the College will change from having Campus attendance officers to a College attendance officer. The College is pleased to welcome Zoe Plumb to the role.

This will allow parents and carers to make one phone call regardless of which campus their student/s attend and provide for a better overall view of attendance.

The College attendance line is 5132 3711 and can be called at any time to leave a message. Please leave a message with your name, relationship to the student, the student’s name and reason for their absence. We ask that all parents and carers ring before 9:00 am to notify if their student will be away so their absence can be passed on to their teachers.

“In all analyses, average academic achievement on NAPLAN tests declined with any absence from school and continued to decline as absence rates increased. The nature of the relationship between absence from school and achievement, across all sub-groups of students strongly suggests that every day of attendance in school contributes towards a child’s learning, and that academic outcomes are enhanced by maximising attendance in school. There is no “safe” threshold.”


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Parentline Victoria

13 22 89 - 8am to midnight 7 days a week

- Parentline provides a statewide telephone counselling service to parents and carers of children aged from birth to eighteen years
- Professional counsellors are able to explore a variety of issues that impact on parenting and relationships
- Parentline can provide contact details for community services
- Parentline respects the confidentiality and right to privacy of callers
Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Rick Pemberton, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(03) 5120 2582 / 0407 567 312
or rpemberton@berrystreet.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered across Bass Coast and South Gippsland.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.
COMMUNITY NEWS

FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

- Do you have a spare bedroom?
  - Are you able to provide a safe, stable and loving environment to a child?
- Are you willing to attend training & work as part of a team?

UnitingCare Gippsland is seeking foster carers to meet the needs of local children unable to live with their birth families.

For more information please visit www.ucgipps.org.au or Call Megan & Cassandra from the Home Based Care team on (03) 51 447 777
FEDERATION UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA
EXPERIENCE DAYS

At each day students will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on experiences led by University staff, and to speak with current students and industry representatives. Speakers will highlight career and educational pathways within their industries.

Days:
Outdoor and Environment Education and Physical Education Thursday 10th March
Arts and Education Thursday 17th March
Nursing, Health Science and Psychology Thursday 14th April
Business Thursday 21st April
Engineering and IT Thursday 28th April
Art and Design Thursday 5th May
Science Thursday 12th May

RSVPs:
First in with completed permission forms will be accepted. Limited numbers.

Sample Timetable:
10.00am – 10.15am: Introduction to day
10.15am – 10.45am: Activity - Rotation 1
10.45am – 11.15am: Activity - Rotation 2
11.15am – 11.45am: Activity - Rotation 3
11.45am – 12.15pm: Activity - Rotation 4
12.15pm – 1.00pm: Lunch
(Students to bring own lunch or purchase from cafeteria)
1.00pm – 1.15pm: Career pathways discussion
1.15pm – 1.45pm: Q & A with current students/industry reps
1.45pm: 2.00pm: Survey completion and wrap up

See Kylie in the Careers Room for more information.
Get IN THE GAME with AFL Gippsland and CMY

Join In The Game today and learn new skills, meet new friends and connect with local footy clubs.

In The Game sessions will introduce you to the skills you need to play Australian Rules football and will help you get involved with a local club that understands you.

All boys and girls welcome (12-25 years) to come and try!

WHEN: In The Game sessions will run weekly from Monday 7th March
TIME: 4.00pm - 5.15pm

WHO: Ages 12-25 (with Auskick for younger players)

WHERE: Morwell Recreation Reserve, Travers Street, Morwell

Contact Tori Stratford on 0437 866 168 for more information or to sign up.
Can you open your heart and open your home to a child in need?

Across Gippsland we need more foster carers to provide a safe & welcoming home to children of all ages.

You can help change a young life for the better.

If this sounds like it may be you and you would like more information on becoming a foster carer,

Please contact Lindsay Jarvis 5120 2000
lindsay.jarvis@quantum.org.au

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**Kinship Support Group**

For grandparents and kinship carers raising their grandchildren or family members, or grandparents separated from a grandchild through divorce, family conflict or loss.

**MEETING DATES FOR 2016**

- 10th February 2016
- 15th March 2016
- 13th April 2016
- 19th May 2016
- 15th June 2016
- 13th July 2016
- 10th August 2016
- 14th September 2016
- 12th October 2016
- 2nd November 2016
- 30th November 2016
- 30th November – lunch after meeting

**MEETING DETAILS**

- Time: 9.30 am – 12.00 noon
  (9.30 am catch up, 10.00 am speakers)
- Venue: Anglicare
  62 Church Street
  Morwell

There is NO COST to attend.

**ALL GRANDPARENTS AND KINSHIP CARERS WELCOME**

This group provides grandparents and kinship carers with the opportunity to meet with other carers who have had similar experiences; to share experiences, joys and concerns in a safe and confidential environment; and develop positive and supportive networks.

Staff from Relationships Australia and Parentzone Gippsland will attend and facilitate the group.

For more information contact:
Pat Wells at Parentzone Gippsland – 5133 9998
Sue Harding at Relationships Australia – 5175 5500

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[Anglicare Victoria](anglicarevic.org.au)
GIPPSLAND POWER FOOTBALL CLUB

Will be holding Under 10, 12 and 14 Fitness and Skill acquisition days at the Gippsland Power Centre Of Excellence
Morwell Football Ground, Travers Street, Morwell

Features
- Elite Coaching
- Fitness Testing
- Skill Acquisition
- Skill Testing
- Game Sense Drills
- Training Session

JUNIOR COACHING PROGRAM
Under 10 Wednesday 6th April 2016
Under 12 Thursday 7th April 2016
Under 14 Friday 8th April 2016

Time: 10.00am to 3.00pm
Cost: $100-00 For registrations please contact the Gippsland Power Football Club
Club office on 51348133

*Registrations close on Friday April 4th*