Welcome to the 2017 School Year

Hello to all our learning community members, and a special welcome to those joining Kurnai College for the first time.

This year we are lucky to welcome some new staff to our campus:

Paul Radford, who has been working at our University Campus for a number of years. Paul has joined the Year 9/10 team, and is teaching a mix of Culture Studies, Media, English and Humanities.

Luke Harrison has joined us from Churchill Campus. Luke is also in the Year 9/10 team, and is teaching English, Culture, Humanities and VCAL Personal Development.

Russell Mitchell is the new Leading Teacher heading up the Year 8 Team. In addition to his team leadership duties, Russell is also teaching a mix of Health and PE, Design Technology, Community Spirit and Maths.

Katherine Carbone has also joined our staff. Katherine is a graduate teacher, and is teaching a range of Health and PE across all year levels.

Also new this year, is Colleen Swift. Colleen has been a part of the Kurnai Learning Community for a number of years working in various office roles, and was an advocate at the University Campus last year. This year Colleen is a key member of our Advocate Team.

Many parents and carers will meet our new colleagues at Parent/Teacher Conversations coming up at the end of this term, however, if any issues come up, please feel free to contact all staff via Compass/email or by telephoning the office during office hours.
Message from our Principal continues........

We are trying a few new ideas regarding our organisation this year:

Bells are only used at the beginning of the day, after recess, and after lunch. This is leading to a much more peaceful atmosphere around the campus, and people are still getting to where they should be in good time (mostly).

We have cut right back on announcements at the end of sessions, as these are very challenging for teachers trying to finish their lessons correctly.

In order to line up with the mandated 300 minutes of instruction each day, we have cut out form groups in the mornings. This means that our school day commences at 8:40am. Students are required to be at school by 8:35am.

Due to our later start, there is no official supervision before 8:10am. Please ensure that your children are not dropped off before this time.

Campus Building Program

2017 is going to be a very big year for Morwell Campus, but it will not be without its challenges!

As most of you know, we are about to commence the complete re-building of the antiquated structures that make up most of Morwell Campus. During early January, all asbestos was removed from the back two-thirds of the school building, and during time since school started, these buildings have all but been demolished.

While this has been happening there has been quite a lot of noise. I am so pleased that the staff and the students have put up with all this noise so patiently, because it is not easy to concentrate with heavy machinery operating outside your classroom.

I would also like to congratulate the students on the very mature way they have respected the demolition site. We have not had anyone trying to get over or past fences, or giving cheek to the work crew.

NAPLAN

Year 7 and 9 students will undergo National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing in early May. The results of NAPLAN are very helpful to the school in checking how our programs for improving student outcomes are going.

We see this as very important data and we expect that all students will take this testing very seriously.

In rare circumstances, some students are withdrawn from testing. If you think this could apply to your student, please contact me as soon as possible. ACARA, the national testing authority, requires that paperwork be completed before the child is excused.
Message from our Principal continues....... 

Head Lice
A number of students from all year levels have had head lice in recent weeks.

Please take a moment to check your child's hair, and if lice or eggs are present, please commence treatment before sending your student back to school.

A pamphlet is included in this bulletin explaining how to treat head lice. Children can be treated with the "comb and conditioner" method, which is a cost-effective option. Use conditioner and comb hair with a fine comb every second day, until no live lice have been found for 10 days. Alternatively, a head lice-specific lotion or shampoo can be used, carefully following instructions on the packaging. Remember that two treatments are required, seven days apart, for this option to be effective.

There is no shame in contracting head lice – they are very common and can easily be transferred from child to child through hair contact.

Collecting Students During the Day
We know that from time to time, parents and carers will collect students during the day for a variety of reasons such as medical and dental appointments. It is essential that your student brings a signed note explaining why they are being collected, and at what time. This note should be handed to the relevant class teacher.

Please ensure that your child knows what time you are coming – they need to be responsible for coming to the office at the appropriate time. The office staff cannot page students except in the case of EXTREME emergency, as it is very disruptive to all classes running.

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 7 News ...........

Welcome
For those of you who are new to the College, and this is your first child coming through, welcome! For those who have been through this all before, welcome back! Though the first couple of weeks of High School are hectic for both children and families with notices, excursions, organisation, books, subjects, timetables, lockers ... the list goes on. The good news is that the students have thrown themselves into secondary schooling and adjusted really well. They are working hard, have met all their teachers, and are starting to understand the changes in expectations of a new place.

Parent Meet & Greet BBQ
Your child should have brought home a flyer for you with the Year 7 Meet & Greet BBQ. By the time you read this, that will have occurred. The BBQ is run every year and is a great chance to meet your children's teachers, new friends, and their families, so I hope you had the opportunity to attend. Of course, teachers are always happy to talk with you about the progress of your child. You will soon receive logon instructions for Compass, which allows you to email each individual teacher and monitor your child's progress and attendance closely. If you have any concerns about the overall welfare or education of your child, please don't hesitate to contact me by email or phone.

Immunisation Forms
Your child also received an immunisation pack in recent days. It is essential these are signed and returned regardless of whether your child is to have their immunisation or not. The Shire will be contacting you directly to follow these up if they are not returned. Immunisations take place at the school in coming weeks. If you have any questions or concerns about this, I'm more than happy to talk with you about them.
Year 7 News continued.............

Excursion Forms
Your child has received three excursion forms already this year. The good news is that it is not a normal occurrence to receive so many at once! The College has a very strict procedure around excursions and excursion forms which requires them to be returned by the due date. On most occasions, where a student has not returned their form by the required date and time, they are not able to attend the event. The forms received so far are for the following:

- College Sports – The school swimming and athletics carnivals held in Terms 1 and 2 are whole College events that every child is expected to attend. They have no cost associated and students are not required to participate in any events (though they are strongly encouraged to) if they do not wish.

- Year 7 Team Building Day – This day out at the Mirboo North Swimming Pool is just for Morwell Campus Year 7s and is our opportunity to get to know each other in a different environment. It is a very important day and one that students should participate in. It has a small cost associated.

- Year 7 Camp – Though the camp is not until June, we have to book numbers in soon. It is important that the deposit and permission form are returned ASAP. For those who are eligible for CSEF, this covers nearly the whole cost of the camp. In fact, many may have a CSEF balance that will be transferred from the primary school. You can check in with the office to see if this is the case for you. The Year 7 camp is the most important of all the camps. This is where relationships are formed and solidified and students who don’t attend often feel very much left out when the others return.

It is essential that you communicate with the school if financial difficulties are preventing your child from attending or participating in events. We will always do our very best to help you. The educational experience of our students is always the most important thing on our minds.

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Year 8 News .........

Welcome back
I am new to the school and I have been very impressed by the welcoming I have had from all of the students and staff here at Kurnai.
I'm looking forward to a great year and getting to know all the students over the coming months.
If you're a parent or guardian and you would like to meet me, please contact the school so we can set up a time.

College Swimming Sports
We have the swimming sports on next week on Thursday 16th February and we still have many students who haven't yet returned their permission form.
Can you please make sure you bring your form back to the front office so you can participate.

Karoonda Camp
The Year 8 camp in 2017 will take place in Term 4 and usually costs approximately $450, but if parents/carers wish to start making payments now then they are recommended to speak to the office staff about a payment plan.

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Welcome
Welcome back to Year 9! It is great to see our Year 9's settling into their classes and coming prepared for class. We welcome a number of new students to our Year 9 cohort and wish them all the best. I trust that our 'old' students will continue to assist the new members of our learning community. In order for students to achieve their potential, they will require workbooks, stationery and a device in each class. If you would like to discuss ways I can support you in this, please call me on 5165 0600.

Class Changes
Some students have submitted a request to change their elective subject. Whilst I will endeavour to meet all requests, due to class sizes, not all changes will be possible. Students are expected to attend the class which appears on their timetable. All students were provided with a hard copy of their timetable and are also able to access it on Compass.

Team Building Day
As usual we are looking forward to our Team Building Day at Mirboo North Pool on Wednesday 1st March. This day is an opportunity for students to hang out with each other while the teachers take care of catering for the day. We want every student to attend this important relationship building day.

I am looking forward to a successful year for our Year 9's.

If you have any concerns or questions, need assistance with any aspect of your child's schooling, please do not hesitate to contact me on 5165 0600.

A reminder to call our ABSENCE HOTLINE 5132 3711 preferably before 9am 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.
Welcome Back

Welcome back to 2017 and your final year at Morwell Campus. I look forward to working with you all during this very busy but rewarding year. We welcome a number of new students to the Year 10 cohort and wish them all the best for the year.

In order for students to achieve their potential, they will require workbooks, stationery and a device in each class. If you would like to discuss ways I can support you in this, please call me on 5165 0600.

Team Building Day

The Year 10 team building day at Mirboo north pool is on Wednesday 22nd February and day is a fun day for our Year 10’s and the Year 10 staff, to build on the strong relationships that have been forged over the years. All students have received their permission forms which need to be returned with a $15 payment. I would love to see every student attend the team building day.

Work Experience

Work experience is in Term 2 from 8-19th May. Remember to have conversations about possible careers and think about places where students could do their work experience. The preparation for Work Experience will be undertaken in our Team Time classes. It is vital that students attend all of these classes and use the time provided to arrange their Work Experience placement.

Class Changes

Students have recently requested elective class changes. I will endeavour to meet as many of these requests as possible. In the meantime, students are asked to attend the class in which they are enrolled, as appears on Compass. They will be notified if a class change was made.

All timetables are available on Compass however I suggest that students put a copy in the front door of their locker so that they can take the correct equipment for each class.

Central Australia Camp

The Year 10 Central Australia Camp is held at the end of Term 3. Permission forms will be distributed shortly, however you can register your intention along with a $50 deposit at the general office. So as to spread the financial load, a payment plan has been arranged. If you would like to attend but are experiencing difficulty, please contact me so that we can discuss options.

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**Congratulations to our PBS Recipients**

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<td>Rhiannon Cornell</td>
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<td>Ashleigh Monaghan</td>
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<td>Paul Repinks</td>
<td>Chelsea Foster</td>
<td>Chloe Whalley</td>
<td>Sebastian Perham</td>
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### Year 7

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<tr>
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<th>Cost</th>
<th>Form &amp; Payment Due Date</th>
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<td>13-16 Jun</td>
<td>Camp Coolamatong</td>
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### All Years

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<td>23 Mar</td>
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Year 7 Vaccinations in 2017
The Secondary School Vaccine Program offers free vaccines to Year 7 students. These vaccines provide protection against:

- Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) – one dose
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – three doses
- Varicella (chicken pox) – one dose

Parents/guardians of Year 7 students should look out for the vaccine consent card booklet coming home from school with your child. You need to read the booklet and complete and return Part A regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

Latrobe City immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 28 February 2017 if you do not want your contact details given to the Latrobe City immunisation service.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to betterhealth.vic.gov.au or immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

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. In some circumstances, medical or other expenses will be paid by the Department where it is assessed that it is likely, that the Department is liable for negligent (careless) acts or omissions of its staff 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.
School Nurse Update - Sarah

Welcome back to a new year!

I am Kurnai’s brand new school nurse. My role in Kurnai College is to help everybody be as healthy as they can be. I do this by teaching students about being healthy and by helping the school to be healthy.

I am available to talk to students and families about concerns with health such as:

- Adolescent health concerns
- Safe sex
- Smoking, alcohol and drug use
- Feeling stressed or unhappy
- Heathy weight and diet
- Problems at home
- Hygiene issues - body odour, lice, etc
- Coordinating services between school and community-based health and support services
- Referral to appropriate services

I work Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays across all the campuses of Kurnai. Students can organise to see me by talking to their teachers or the welfare team or email  pearse.clark.sarah.l@edumail.vic.gov.au
Debutante Ball

Parents & Carers of students planning to do the Debutante Ball in 2017 need to be aware that as the Deb Ball is an external event to the normal school curriculum, conditions are placed on student participation.

One of these conditions is that families with outstanding charges are required to bring them up to date before their child can begin dance lessons in preparation for the Deb Ball.

This does not include the College's yearly school charges but only costs that should have already been paid such as outstanding balances for camps and excursions, extra curriculum music costs or charges relating to damage of school property.

In addition to payments made at the campus office, the College offers both Centrepay and Bpay options as a method of payment. Centrepay allows families to have fortnightly amounts automatically deducted from any Centrelink payments.

If you have any concerns or wish to organise a payment plan please don't hesitate to contact the campus office.

Kurnai Pillars

Work Ethic

‘We are committed to working hard’

Excellence

‘We do the best we can do’

Relationships

‘We value and respect each other’

Engagement

‘We actively participate in our own learning’

Attendance

Hotline

5132 3711
Whilst Kurnai College is happy to include Community Announcements in our newsletters - please understand Kurnai College is not involved in the organisations or the running of any these community events.
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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.
Whilst Kurnai College is happy to include Community Announcements in our newsletters - please understand Kurnai College is not involved in the organisations or the running of any these community events.
Glen: 0408762679
Sally: 0403282630

Morwell Tennis Club

presents

“Girls in Tennis Program”
A special program supported by Vic Health for girls aged 10 – 14 that would like to learn how to play tennis in a fun, social environment.

“HOTSHOTS Tennis Program”
A program teaching children aged 4 – 11 the basics of the game.

“Let’s Play Tennis”
A program for children aged 12 and above. Groups available for those that have never played before and for those that want to improve on their current skills.

“Cardio Tennis”
A program for people aged 15 and over that want to improve their fitness in a fun, social, group tennis program for people of all ages. Tennis ability is not a factor.

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Treating and controlling head lice

While children are at school, many families will have contact with head lice. The information contained here will help you treat and control head lice.

**Catching head lice**

Head lice have been around for many thousands of years. Anyone can get head lice.

Head lice are small, wingless, blood sucking insects. Their colour varies from whitish-brown to reddish-brown. Head lice only survive on humans. If isolated from the head they die very quickly (usually within 24 hours).

People get head lice from direct hair to hair contact with another person who has head lice. This can happen when people play, cuddle or work closely together.

Head lice do not have wings or jumping legs so they cannot fly or jump from head to head. They can only crawl.

**Finding head lice**

Many lice do not cause an itch, so you have to look carefully to find them.

Head lice are found on the hair itself and move to the scalp to feed. They have six legs which and in a claw and they rarely fall from the head. Louse eggs (also called nits) are laid within 1.5 cm of the scalp and are firmly attached to the hair. They resemble dandruff, but can't be brushed off.

Lice can crawl and hide. The easiest and most effective way to find them is to follow these steps:

**Step 1** Comb any type of hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (untangled) hair. This stuns the lice and makes it difficult for them to grip the hair or crawl around.

**Step 2** Now comb sections of the hair with a fine tooth, head lice comb.

**Step 3** Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.

**Step 4** Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.

**Step 5** Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least four to five times.

If lice or eggs are found, the hair should be treated.

If the person has been treated recently and you only find empty hatched eggs, you may not have to treat, as the empty eggs could be from a previous episode.

**Treating head lice**

Treating head lice involves removing lice and eggs from the hair. There are two ways you can do this:

1. Buying and using a head lice lotion or shampoo, following the instructions on the product
2. Using the combing and comb method (described under “finding head lice”) every second day until there have been no live lice found for ten days.

If you choose to use a head lice product always read and follow the instructions provided with the product carefully. The following points may also be helpful:

- Head lice products must be applied to all parts of the hair and scalp.
- No treatment kills all of the eggs so treatment must involve two applications, seven days apart. The first treatment kills all lice; the second treatment kills the lice that may have hatched from eggs not killed by the first treatment.
- Cover the person’s eyes while the treatment is being applied. A towel is a good way to do this.
- If you are using a lotion, apply the product to dry hair.
- If you are using a shampoo, wet the hair, but use the least amount of water possible.
- Apply the treatment near the scalp, using an ordinary comb to cover the hair from root to tip. Repeat this several times until all the hair is covered.

There is no need to treat the whole family – unless they also have head lice.

Concentrate on the head – there is no need to clean the house or the classroom.

Only the pillowcase requires washing – either wash it in hot water (at least 60°C) or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting.
Testing resistance
Head lice products belong in one of the following categories depending on the active compound they contain:
- pyrethrins
- synthetic pyrethroids (permethrin, bioethrin)
- organophosphates (malathion or malathion)
- herbal with or without natural (non-chemical) pyrethrins.

Insecticide resistance is common, so you should test if lice are dead. If they are, treat again in seven days using the same product. If the lice are not dead, the treatment has not worked and the lice may be resistant to the product and all products containing the same active compound. Wash off the product and treat as soon as possible using a product containing a different active compound. If the insecticide has worked, the lice will be dead within 20 minutes.

Any head lice product could cause a reaction and should be used with care by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding, children less than 12 months old and people with allergies, asthma or open wounds on the scalp. If you are unsure, please check with your pharmacist or doctor.

Head lice combs
Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however, any head lice comb can be used.

Head lice eggs
Head lice eggs are small (the size of a pinhead) and oval. A lice egg will “pop” when squashed between fingers.

Dead eggs have crumpled sides and hatched eggs look like tiny boiled eggs with their tops cut off.

Regulations
According to the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009, children with head lice can be readmitted to school or children’s service centres after treatment has commenced.

The department recommends a child with head lice can be treated one evening and return to school or children’s service centres the next morning, even if there are still some eggs present. There is no need to miss school or child care because of head lice.

Preventing head lice
Check your child’s head regularly with comb and conditioner. There is no research to prove that chemical or herbal therapies can prevent head lice.

Further information
The following website offers further information:

The life cycle of head lice
*Pediculus humanus capitis*

1. **Egg**
   - Egg is laid on hair shaft. Egg is called a “nits”.

2. **Louse emerges after six to seven days**

3. **First moult two days after hatching**

4. **Second moult five days after hatching**

5. **Third moult 10 days after hatching**

6. **Emerging from their third moult as adult lice, the female lays significantly smaller male begin to reproduce**

7. **Female lays first egg one or two days after mating**

8. **Female can lay approximately nine to eight eggs per day for the next 16 days**

9. **Having lived 32 to 35 days, the louse dies**

10. **16 to 17 days**
    - 6 to 7 days
    - 11 to 12 days

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Invitation to participate in the
Boomulele Street Band and the Boolarra Folk Festival

Community members are warmly invited to take part in a performance of the Boomulele Street Band at the Boolarra Folk Festival on 4th March, 2017 in Centenary Park, Boolarra. Participation is free and everyone is welcome.

Boomulele is a street band featuring percussion, ukulele and vocals based in the Latrobe Valley. The Band plays simple grooves while parading along. Steve Schultz leads percussion and Brian (Strat) Strating leads ukulele and arrangements. Boomulele is one of ten street bands in the StreetSounds Project coordinated by Lyndal Chambers of Community Music Victoria. Street bands are informal and highly accessible to people of varied abilities. Open to all, regardless of age, ability, instrument or training, they bring people together to make music and have fun.

Rehearsals are held every second Thursday night 7.30pm – 9.00pm at St Lukes Uniting Church, 283 Princes Ave, Morwell. The next two Boomulele rehearsals are happening at 7.30pm on Thursday 16th February and Thursday 2nd March leading up to the Boolarra Folk Festival on 4th March, with a rehearsal at 3.00pm and a gig from 4.10pm-4.30pm. You may like to come to the Festival earlier too. There’s a lot on including a free Drumming Circle with Steve Schultz at 1.30pm-2.30pm in the Boolarra Memorial Hall.

Contact: Barry Stuckey 0429 966130 stuck.cal@gmail.com
Brian (Strat) Strating 0429 797 750 brianstrating@gmail.com

For more information about Boomulele, the StreetSounds Project and the Boolarra Folk Festival
https://cnvic.org.au/pages/streetsounds
https://vimeo.com/186397064
http://www.boolarrafolkfestival.com.au

Whilst Kurnai College is happy to include Community Announcements in our newsletters - please understand Kurnai College is not involved in the organisations or the running of any these community events.