From the Principal

It was a pleasure to attend the Year 12 Motivational Dinner last week at Heidelberg Golf Club. The students were looking forward to a night that held the right balance of guest speakers and socialising with teachers and each other. Brian Taylor was an entertaining keynote speaker, sharing his journey from a small country town in Western Australia, to joining the AFL at 16 years of age, followed by an illustrious career in the media. He engaged the students with amusing stories, underpinned with a strong message on how goal setting and perseverance can pay off.

The panel of ex-students was particularly good this year. I was impressed with the candid and honest way they responded to the questions from the College Captains. They reinforced the message that Brian had emphasised but also shared their own personal experiences, which were for some still not smooth sailing.

Congratulations to Bec and Cate for organising an excellent evening.

I was invited to attend the VCAL 2016 Achievement Awards where it was a pleasure to see a number of VCAL students from around the state acknowledged for their significant work in the areas of Personal Development Skills, Work Related Skills and Team Achievement. To listen to the wide range of projects that these students had implemented and the impact that the opportunity to participate in VCAL had had on their educational journey was inspiring. It was particularly special as Diamond Valley College’s Adam Chrystie was acknowledged, receiving a Student Achievement Award for Intermediate Personal Development Skills.

VCAL Coordinator Ben Strickland nominated Adam after he successfully organised for his VCAL classmates to donate blood at the Red Cross Blood Bank. This came about after working with the Banyule Nillumbik LLEN and attending presentations and workshops with the Salvation Army. It was a very proud moment to see one of our students acknowledged for their great work, particularly when the usual accolades go to high performing VCE students. VCAL is a unique and wonderful program, that allows students to remain engaged and at school to the end of their Year 12. Congratulations Adam and well done to the team of teachers who supported you in your Intermediate year of VCAL.

I want to thank the dedicated group that supported our working bee led by College Council member Lee Williams. We are grateful that Lee has taken over the organisation of the working bee in Pat McMahon’s absence and it sounds like there are a few ideas underway to build on this first working bee for the year. It is amazing what a difference a small group can make to the grounds and it is a great way of meeting other parents. So if you have a few hours to spare, join Lee and his group next term.

I would also like to thank the staff and students who attended the Town and Country Connect held in Hurstbridge recently. Although it was not well attended by the public, it was a valuable opportunity to meet other local providers and make potential connections for the college and our students. Thank you to Claudia and Elana, two of our college captains who engaged with members of other communities groups and promoted our college and to Annie Brownrigg, Sue Hamer, Michael Courts, Brent Barbera and Justin Matt who gave up part of their weekend to support the event.

Congratulations to all of the students who have represented the college at recent sporting events. Well done on participating and upholding our college values and good sportsmanship.

Allison Bennett
Principal
On Wednesday 24 May the Year 12s attended a Motivational Dinner at Heidelberg Golf Course.

As the year progresses and we start to inch closer to winter, motivation can be difficult for many students. The aim of the evening was to help them re-motivate themselves to be able to achieve their best throughout the remainder of their final year of school.

During the evening students listened to key note speaker, Brian Taylor, share his experiences from his own career and what he has learnt about commitment and motivation; and how vital they are to success. Brian also shared an anecdote reminding them to listen to their parents, even when they feel that they know better. Students had many questions for Brian and eagerly lined up for ‘selfies’ after dinner.

Part of the night also included a Q&A Panel of ex-students: James Alvarez, Chelsea Clapton, Sam Colcheedas and Megan Verinder, who shared their experiences during Year 12, how they maintained their motivation, and what life is like afterwards.

Overall it was a wonderful night run by the College Captains. We hope that it worked to remind our students what really matters, and to re-energise them for their last few months of study.

Good luck Year 12s!

Cate Hambling - Acting Year 12 Coordinator
On Thursday 18 May we had an opportunity to try some Italian coffee with an Italian traditional cake called Panettone. There was also Nutella and Italian bread called pasta-dura, which was yummy and a wonderful way to learn Italian and revise for our exam. We would like to say thanks to Rosa our teacher for organizing this.

By Caitlyn Pascoe

---

Italian translation

Il 18 maggio abbiamo avuto la possibilità di provare il caffè italiano insieme a un dolce tradizionale chiamato Panettone. In più, abbiamo anche assaggiato la nutella con il pane di pasta dura. È stato un modo fantastico e molto gustoso di imparare l'italiano e ripassare per il nostro esame. Vorremmo quindi ringraziare la nostra insegnante, Rosa, per aver organizzato tutto questo.

By Caitlyn Pascoe

---

YEAR 12 ART

Year 12 Art class getting ready to hand in their Unit 3 artworks next week
What is Digital Technologies?

Chances are, if you’ve been listening to the media in the last year, you will have heard about a new initiative in schools, where kids are being taught ‘to code’. Sometimes the message has become confused, and parents are wondering what this is all about. The new Victorian Curriculum being delivered across the state includes several new areas that have been identified as important for our students to learn about.

“The Digital Technologies curriculum enables students to become confident and creative developers of digital solutions through the application of information systems and specific ways of thinking about problem solving.”

Whilst we know that most of our young people are ready consumers of digital content, the focus of Digital Technologies is to give them skills that they will be able to use in the future, to be able to find opportunities in a rapidly changing workplace. As computer technology becomes more and more prevalent, those who can use the technologies will be better prepared.

Digital Technologies at Diamond Valley College

Prior to the launch of the Victorian Curriculum we were already teaching courses in Information Technology, so whilst it is a new subject at many schools, we have been refining our existing courses to bring it in line with the new curriculum. Because most primary schools have not had an equivalent subject our students are not always prepared, and there will be a transition period as students get up to speed.

Victorian Curriculum

- Digital Technologies Year 7 (1 semester)
- Digital Technologies Year 9 (1 semester - elective)
- Digital Technologies Year 10 (1 semester – elective)

Students wishing to continue with studies in Computing are served by a range of IT subjects at VCE, as well as the VET Creative and Digital Media course.

VCE Computing

- Computing Units 1 & 2
- Informatics Units 3 & 4
- Software Development 3 & 4 (not currently offered, enquiries welcome)

NCSS Coding Challenge

This year we are giving students who wish to develop their coding skills further an opportunity to participate in a competition at a national level. The NCSS Challenge, run by University of Sydney is a well-established online program that runs for 5 weeks from July 31. Sign-up is just $20. Our IT teachers are able to mentor students who wish to improve their 21st century skills.

More information can be found at: https://groklearning.com/challenge/, or for any enquiries regarding our Digital Technologies subjects, please contact Richard Fox (9438 8242, fox.richard.r@edumail.vic.gov.au)
The Next Generation Youth Forum is an annual event that gives Year 10 - 12 secondary school leaders an opportunity to be inspired by the exchange of ideas, to debate and break free from conventions and become agents of change in our society.

Fourteen of our students were selected to experience programs that included a keynote address from a high-achieving young Australian who has been transformational in their field. They also took part in a range of workshops on leadership and social justice topics that will inspire our next generation of leaders.

“Values are the structure to our beliefs and actions. They affect the way we live our lives.” Billy

"It doesn’t matter which side of the bus you get off, as long as we all respect where the bus goes” Ian

“Eye-opening presentations by youth advocates, provided me with the encouragement and advice to innovate, inspire and discover curiosity in all life’s wonder; intertwined with developing my growing understanding of the importance values play in shaping us as individuals.” Darcy

“Our values influence our actions, our actions influence others and therefore values are the basis of leadership.” Liam

“It was a valuable and interesting experience.” Hayden

“A very good experience, I learnt more about what it’s like to be a leader.” Aaron

“The youth forum at La Trobe was very motivational and I came away from it feeling as though I can do anything I put my mind to.” Georgie

“The Youth Forum at LA Trobe was eye opening in many ways and I believe it has helped me grow as a person.” Sheridan
DVC Art and Music Expo
15 June 2017

The Year 10 High Resolves Team are hosting an Art and Music Expo on Thursday 15 of June.

Throughout lunchtime and part of session 5, the courtyard will be alive with live music, art competitions, art displays, food for sale and various activities.

This event will give students the ability to display their creative talents and maybe even earn some money.

We want to celebrate DVC’s talents and skills!

If you would like to feature your creative talents during the day by hosting your own stall please contact either:

Nick Currie - Event Organiser: cur0007@dvallcoll.vic.edu.au
Mel Boulton - High Resolves Teacher: melinda.boulton@dvallcoll.vic.edu.au
On Thursday 18 May, 7.2 students were required to complete a Masterchef Assignment, where each student cooked a meal of their choice. Each dish was individual and they were all amazing. The judges, Jacquie Last and Allison Bennett, chose a few sweet and savoury dishes to try and chose two winners. The winners were Caitlin with her Apple & Raspberry crumble with Custard and Ellie with her Rainbow Pancakes. There were many more wonderful dishes, such as brownies, cheesecakes, cookies, cupcakes and pizza. It was a really enjoyable assignment and we would love to do it again.

Lahni, Zara, Tayla and Ellie
YMCA centres across Australia are partnering with the Australian Government to encourage more young girls to get active by supporting the ‘Girls Make Your Move’ campaign.

From Saturday 1 April – Friday 30 June 2017, girls aged 12-19 years can take advantage of 30 days free access to YMCA health and fitness centres and participating wellness programs.

The initiative is about inspiring girls to find physical activities they enjoy and encouraging them to live a healthier life. Recent studies show young girls are twice as likely as boys to be inactive and that they experience more barriers preventing them from being as physically active.

We have over 30 YMCA-managed centres across Victoria that want to give your female students the chance to get active in a safe, encouraging and professional environment. It is our hope that girls all over our state will take up this offer and get active, particularly in our group fitness classes.

The YMCA is a community not-for-profit organisation focused on helping people to be healthier and happier. The YMCA in Australia believes in the power of inspiring young people and provides opportunities for them to be their best.

Go to australia.gov.au/girlsmove to find your local participating gym and get moving for free.
URGENT
PLEASE READ

A number of families have still failed to complete an Application to Travel 2017 or have outstanding fees.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, these students will no longer be able to travel via the Diamond Valley College Bus Network until they have completed an Application or paid the appropriate fee where necessary. These procedures are applicable to ALL travellers both eligible and fare paying.

Due to the legal and safety requirements of the Department of Education and PTV, parents/guardians are now required to make alternative travel arrangements for their child.

If you are unsure if this decision affects your family or if you have any queries, please contact Roz, the bus co-ordinator as soon as possible on 9438 1411.

Semester 1 & 2 – Electives 2017

We are rapidly approaching the end of Semester 1, 2017 and our records are showing there are many students who have participated in chargeable electives this semester and the fees are still outstanding.

Letters will be sent home shortly requesting payment for these electives as the College has paid for the expenses for these electives to run.

Many of these students have also chosen a fee paying elective for Semester 2, 2017. If payments are not received by Friday 28 July, 2017 for Semester 2 electives the students will be unable to take possession of any materials that are produced within these classes.

Payments for these fees can be made by Direct Deposit, BPay or by calling the General Office.

IMPORTANT COLLEGE DATES

Term 2 2017

5-9 June Year 10 & 11 Exams
12 June Queens Birthday Public Holiday
14 June Performing Arts Night
15 June Art & Music Expo
16 June Report Writing Day - No students required
19-23 June Year 10 Work Experience
26-30 June Year 10 Transition Week
30 June Last Day Term 2-2.10 finish
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Messy Play Day!

10am – 1pm
Saturday 3rd June

Experience the messiest fun at kindergarten! Mud, slime, paint and more!
Ideal for children aged 2 to 6.

For more information call 9438 2663
or the Enrolment Officer on 0402 129 844

28 Coniston Street, Diamond Creek

free fun slime mud paint

PANTON HILL RURAL FIRE BRIGADE
Presents:
Back by popular demand:

60-80’s Fancy Dress Dance
Saturday 24th June 2017
6:30pm-12am

Panton Hill Hall, Pumiceto Ground St Andrews Road, Panton Hill

DJ playing all the hits from the 60’s-80’s
Prizes for best male & female fancy dress
Raffle & one MONSTER auction! (18+ event)

Tickets $25 including $5 meal voucher
Book tickets at tickets@pantonhillrfa.com.au
Phone 0408 700 076
Drinks at bar prices (No BYO)

Funds raised will help the brigade with training & the purchase of
vital operational equipment.

PANTON HILL RURAL FIRE BRIGADE
Serving the community since 1939
Parenting Anxious Children Seminar
Tuesday 6th June 2017 – 7.00pm – 9.30pm
Balwyn Community Centre – 412 Whitehorse Rd. Surrey Hills

Does your child worry and feel anxious at times?
Would you like to gain a greater understanding of anxiety and learn some helpful strategies to support them?

Children worry about many different things. Learning to cope with their anxiety, stress and fear can be really difficult indeed, not only for them, but for also for the parents and family. Developing an understanding of anxiety and learning some skills to manage it can make a significant difference to a family and can help empower children to have a sense of control in handling their own worries.

The Anxiety Recovery Centre of Victoria (ARCVic), a specialist state-wide mental health organization, is passionate about supporting and educating parents so that they feel able to help their children.

Join our relaxed and informative seminar which includes:
- Understanding anxiety and normal childhood development
- How personality and environment contribute
- Different types of anxiety
- The signs and symptoms for you and your children
- Management methods and strategies for you and your children
- Relaxation techniques with tips on building resilience
- Where to go for more information and help and take home material

Cost: $20.00 or $10.00 for ARCVic members
To book contact ARCVic office (03)98300566 or register online at www.arcvic.org.au

For further information contact Lisa Wolfenden or the ARCVic Office – 9830 0566
email - lwolfenden@arcvic.org.au  web: www.arcvic.org.au