From the Principal

Welcome back! I hope that all members of the Diamond Valley College community had a wonderful break and are ready for the challenges of a new school year.

We have welcomed our new Year 7 students and quite a number of new students into Years 8 to 11. All seem to have settled in well and are excited about their new school. Beginning at a new school can be challenging, particularly as they adjust to new routines, expectations and finding their place within friendship groups. We are always available to assist with this transition, so please if there are any concerns contact your child’s coordinator or Vanessa in wellbeing.

There are a number of new staff members who I would like to acknowledge and welcome;

- Felicity Paciocco, VCE Psychology and Science
- Nathan Watson, Health & PE
- Lisa Gaudion, Instrumental Music
- Dave Moore, Maintenance
- Brooke Gannon, DVC Sports Academy
- Alex Veitch, DVC Sports Academy

It is also a pleasure to welcome back Frances Jennings (Art/Vis Com), Dave Carnie (Science/Maths), Glenys Alexander (Maths) and Debbie Dunstan (Administration) who have returned after a period of leave.

Staffing is complete for 2018 and we look forward to a settled year ahead.

The building project is well underway and it is pleasing to hear that the project is running on schedule. Student, staff and community safety is a priority and discussions are held in relation to this at our fortnightly meetings. The students have been very responsive to our requests, in particular the Year 11 students who must access their lockers in the Technology wing. They are currently entering and leaving the school via the top car park. I would like to thank our parents for their understanding as we ask them not to enter the top car park at all. This car park is for staff access only. Pick up and drop offs can occur at the primary school drop off zone or on the city bound side on Main Hurstbridge Road with students crossing at the pedestrian lights.

As always, it has been a busy start to the school year. Our Year 12 students have headed off to camp, College photos are scheduled for this week, the swimming carnival is in two weeks, Year 7 Welcome barbeque and then Year 7 students go to camp.

The DVC Sports Academy began last week with our first group of netball and AFL for Year 7 and 8 girls. Alex and Brooke are really excited about the opportunity to join the academy and look forward to watching the program grow in the future.

VET studies begin next week and I ask that parents ensure that materials fees are paid to ensure that students can access these external studies. If you have any questions about this, please contact our general office staff.

Congratulations to Zahn Agosta in Year 8. Last year his under 14 Eltham Wildcats basketball team won the National title. Last week the team were given the exciting news that they have been invited to compete at the World Junior NBA Championships in Orlando in August. This is an exciting opportunity for this young team and we look forward to hearing from Zahn about the experience.

I wish everyone the best for a successful 2018.

Allison Bennett
Principal
Our Year 12 VCE and VCAL students attended the Year 12 Camp at Anglesea to start their final year in the first week of February.

Over the three days students worked on Goal Setting in their home groups and staff took them through the process of planning and deciding on the focus of their VCE or VCAL year. The Study Skills Presenter – Daniel, introduced many strategies that students were able to discuss and consider how they would integrate them into their learning and study habits. They also reviewed their individual learning styles, looked at strategies to improve memory for recall in exams and tests and effective note taking.

On the second night, the English Domain Leader and Year 12 English teacher – Cate Hambling facilitated an English workshop based on the novel Burial Rites. Work was done analysing and providing key information about the characters to deepen the students understanding. Students then used this information to assist them complete classwork relating to outcome one.

Graham Sinclair the Careers Coordinator presented students with an overview for the year which included attending open days, important VTAC dates and the various processes. This information was an ideal introduction to the University tour that would take place the following day.

Recreational activities included a walk along the beach for students and staff to Point Road Knight, surfing lessons, trampolining, volleyball, cricket and swimming.

Prior to arriving back at the College students visited Deakin University Waterfront Campus in Geelong for an information session and tour. Students had the opportunity to hear about the selection process, university life and walk through the various faculties.

Overall, the students worked well together and there was a positive and enthusiastic mood amongst all students and staff. Some extra motivated students attended a before breakfast yoga session followed by a walk/run down the beach even before the day had started.

We will be following up on the activities commenced at the camp in home group, assemblies and other sessions through the year to ensure the good work done at the camp is strengthened.

Thank you to the staff that came and supported the students and ran activities on the camp: Ben Strickland, Cate Hambling, Jo Poulter, Jane Overton, Claire Lee, Graham Sinclair, Maurice Colin and Allison Bennett.

I would also like to take the opportunity to wish the Year 12 Students the very best for this final year they are about to embark on.

Rebecca Taylor
Senior Sub-School Leader
WHAT’S GOING ON IN THE ARTS?

Hello. My name is Selina Braine and I am the Arts Domain Leader for 2018. The Arts at DVC incorporates Art, Visual Communication Design, Music and Drama.

Firstly I would like to congratulate Elizabeth Steel, who completed VCE Art with us in 2017. Elizabeth has been accepted into a Bachelor of Fine Arts at RMIT, one of the most prestigious and sought after Fine Arts courses in the country. Congratulations Elizabeth.

Please let us know of any other past students who are working or studying within The Arts, we would love to acknowledge their achievements.

This year has started exceptionally well with all classes motivated and eager to learn new skills across all our subject areas. In VCE Art students are coming up with their ideas for their Unit 3/4. We are also organising an excursion to view the work in the NGV Triennial for students in years 11 and 12 Art.

In VCE Visual Communication Design students are learning all about the Design Process and drawing techniques. This class will get the opportunity to see Top Designs at the Melbourne Museum in Term 2 this year.

The Music Department will host many performance evenings throughout 2018, so keep an eye out for promotional posters and updates here and on Facebook.

I look forward to meeting you all throughout 2018 and can’t wait to see the work our students produce in their creative subject areas.

‘Learning gives creativity. Creativity leads to thinking.
Thinking provides knowledge;
Knowledge makes you great.’
Dr. Abdul Kalam

ITALIAN AT DVC

Welcome back to all families and students at DVC. We are looking forward to an exciting year. It includes preparing for a study tour of Italy in 2019, Italian pen-pals, excursions and of course students being involved in eating Italian food. Stay tuned.

Thanks
Rose Marasco
Italian Domain Leader
It was with great excitement that we welcomed our new Year 7’s into the College last Tuesday. While students had attended Orientation Day last year this was their first day in Diamond Valley College uniform. For many it was a chance to start making new friends and learn their way around the College again. Students spent most of the day with their home group teachers; getting organized, learning how to use their locks, read the timetable, log on to the computer network and the general running of the school day. Students also completed a ‘Race Around the College’ to familiarize themselves with the building and rooms. After a week of classes Year 7’s have settled in well.

Year 8’s have settled back into school. Year 8 is a year of consolidation. Students should be focused on their study. They will have opportunities to experience a range of learning styles through all their classes. As a year level some of them will choose to attend a variety of excursions, including a snow trip later in the year. At the end of the year they will be able to choose some of their subjects for next year.

Year 9’s have an exciting year ahead. There are leadership opportunities through the School for Student Leadership, House Leadership and SRC. Students have their first chance to undertake some subjects of their own choice, along with their core subjects. At the end of term three students will travel to the city for City Experience, and at the end of the year they will have work experience.

At all times we will discuss the College values of ‘Respect, Responsibility and Excellence’ with students. All students should work to the best of their ability and seek improvement in their learning. They should challenge themselves to take on new opportunities and stretch their learning outside of the classroom as well as inside the classroom.

Greetings from Instrumental Music,

We are off to a great start for 2018. The music department is freshly moved up to the F block whilst renovations are taking place in our old home. We’ve received encouragement and compliments from staff and students about the music floating around the F block – look forward to more music as we will be ramping it up during this first Semester!

Any new students (Year 7 or otherwise) looking to challenge themselves and learn the craft of music are encouraged to speak to our music staff and to come try out instruments, particularly on a Tuesday and Friday when Jim McGuffie is in at DVC. The variety of instruments from Drums to Trumpet, Flute to Guitar is sure to satisfy the most curious of students!

Work hard and good luck to all in 2018!

Music Department
DVC
Have you wondered how you can become more involved at Diamond Valley College? College Council is a valuable way of having a voice within our school community and its future direction. It is a time commitment but what we find is that parent representatives find it a valuable, informative and rewarding experience.

College Council meets once a month, generally on the third Monday of the month beginning at 5.30 pm. These meetings usually finish by 7.00 pm. Members are also expected to sit on one or more sub committees, which include curriculum, finance & facilities and uniform. These meetings are held on the first Monday of the month and members enjoy dinner together in between meetings.

The college is required to have 17 members in 2018, 8 of which are parent representatives. This is an increase from 15 members to accommodate the new requirement to have two student representatives on Council.

We have a number of outgoing council members and I wish to acknowledge and thank Michelle Garvan, Helen Gordon and Vicki McEwan for their contribution over a number of years and their valuable input.

This will mean that in 2018 we will have 6 parent vacancies, as some members’ tenure is complete and they will need to renominate for positions if they wish to continue on council. This process will be advertised via COMPASS in the coming weeks.

If you are interested or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Congratulations to the following students who have taken up the challenge to lead our students

**College Captains**
- Georgina Alvarez
- Sheridan Bennett
- Darcy Williams
- Ryan Dunt
- Ian Jenkinson
- Ethan Stuart

**SRC Chair**
- Olivia Smith

**Music Captain**
- Blake Richmond

**Drama Captain**
- Olivia Stewart

**House Captains**
- Tess Verinder
- Carly McAlister
- Kathryn Curtis
- Hannah Smith
- Ruby Dunston
- Oliver Greenall
- Wilma Frostberg
- Wilson
- Peers
- Bass
- Hubbard

**Wellbeing Captains**
- Jessica Dunn
- Emma Watson
- Caiden Robertson

**Year 11 Leaders**
- Brydie Clapton
- Oliver Greenall
- Nick Currie
- Hayden Swift

**Year 10 Leaders**
- selection process is underway

**Year 9 Leaders**
- selection process is underway

**Year 8 Leaders**
- Piper Bradford
- Ben Wilson
- Guy Breaden

**Year 7 Leaders**
- selection will begin in term 2

**Bus Captains**
- applications are currently open, please submit to Roz Saladino
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Dobsons have upgraded their website and you can now browse and purchase uniforms online. Delivery can be made to your home or office and they offer an immediate ‘Click and Collect’ facility. The website can be found using the following link:


SEW HAPPY CRAFT CLUB
Every Monday @ lunchtime in F2
For all those who are Creative, Crafty and love to work with Textiles
Work on your own project or catch up with your textiles work

ART CLUB
Every Friday @ 12:45pm in S3
Open to all year levels and all skill levels
PLEASE EAT YOUR LUNCH ON THE WAY

IMPORTANT COLLEGE DATES

TERM 1 2018

9 February School Photo Day
19 February College Swimming Carnival
28 February - 2 March Year 7 Camp
12 March Labour Day Public Holiday
COMMUNITY NOTICES

SOOTHPLEASERS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF DIAMOND CREEK PROUDLY PRESENT

William Shakespeare’s

THE DREAM

2 - 4 FEB • ALISTAIR KNOX PARK, ELTHAM
9 - 11 FEB • WATKINS ST RESERVE, DIAMOND CREEK

Facebook.com/shakespearesthedream