It has been an interesting fortnight for me, a time of reflection and learning. I have been amazed by feedback on our students from members in the community, impressed by the way staff support those in need, thankful for the input of staff, students and parents on school decisions that will affect all and know to proof read my emails before I press send!

Last week I attended the opening of the Banyule Nillumbik Tech School of which I am on the planning committee representing secondary schools within our network. It was very exciting to see the planning of several years come to fruition and to see the potential opportunities for our students to access STEM based facilities. Already we have plans for our Year 8 students to attend a three day program that will support their studies. It will be a wonderful opportunity for students to immerse themselves in an inquiry based project. Thank you to Graham Sinclair and students Tom and Myron who are our Tech School Ambassadors and have input to the development of programs and curriculum that will be used in the future.

A focus group was held to discuss how we proceed with our canteen provision in 2019. It was a very small group but I must say the discussion was really interesting. It is always great to have a different perspective – in this case those of parents. A summary of this discussion will be tabled at College Council along with those of the students and staff. Parents are most welcome to discuss their ideas or concerns with any member of council on this matter.

I look forward to offering further opportunities for parents to be involved as we move towards the tendering process of our uniform provider mid 2019.

Further in our newsletter you will see a notice that was placed on the Diamond Creek Community Facebook page and an article on our VCAL students who participated in an inter-generational cooking project. Make sure you have a look at the video that has been produced, it is fantastic. This type of feedback makes me very proud of the College and our students. Our students do wonderful things both at school and in the community and they don’t often get the recognition they deserve. Well done to our VCAL class and to our mystery helper.

Please consider letting me know when you see students doing great things, upholding our College values and being valuable community members. We need to celebrate their contribution and let the community know how much they do.

It’s a busy few weeks ahead. We often focus on the countdown to the VCE exams, however today I would like to acknowledge the students who are working so hard to complete their folios for subjects such as Product Design and Technology and Art. Unless you live with a student completing one of these subjects, I don’t think there is an appreciation for the amount of work that is required to complete a folio. The same can be said for those students who are working so hard on finalising their music and drama performances, and the students studying Italian who have oral presentations. The number of hours they put in and the support they receive from their teachers should never be underestimated.

Our Tournament of Minds team compete this weekend and I wish them all the very best as they participate in a number of challenges. Our Junior Debating team have been attending training sessions in readiness for their first debates and a team of four Year 9 students are beginning their preparation to attend the School for Student Leadership in Term 4. They will be participating in a 9 week residential program at Gnurad Gundidj in the Western Districts. It is exciting for these students to be so involved, engaged and challenged, taking up the offer of programs we support beyond our everyday curriculum. On behalf of the College community I wish them all the very best.

Allison Bennett
Principal
We would like to say a huge thank you to the DVC community for donating their Coles Sports for Schools tokens. This is what your kind donations allowed the College to purchase for the students.

Thank you

PE Department.

Allison would like to say Thank You!!!!

THUMBS UP
My 13yo daughter was just walking a dog for a client around the duck pond behind the pool. She noticed a trolley in the pond. She then noticed a young man (diamond valley college uniform) stop- take his bag off his back and walk more than 2mts in and to knee deep water to retrieve it!
He then pushed it back up and put it in the trolley bay at coles.

WHAT AN ABSOLUTE LEGEND!
We hope you see this and know that our 13yo was in awe by your actions and couldn't wait to tell me when i picked her up. She wants to say- "WELL DONE and THANK YOU for your amazing actions."

Note: This comment was taken from Diamond Creek Community Voice Facebook Page
A New Path at Ellis Cottage

Our wonderful Diamond Valley VCAL students have made a very grand path way between the Cottage and the Barn. A lot of soil had to be removed, bricks counted and laid out, then the concreting began. VCAL teacher Ben Strickland instructed the students on using the spirit level to make sure the bricks were level, he also showed them how to use a string level. They mixed the concrete to get the correct consistency and secured the border of bricks for our path. They completed the first part of the path along the side of the Barn. They then dug out a channel to put in a drainage pipe. The following weekend teacher Ben came down on the Sunday and connected the drainage pit and the drainage pipes to the storm water drain. This will stop the build up of any water between the Cottage and the Police Cell. Thank you to both teachers, Lynsey Betts and Ben Strickland for their support of the project.

We had both female and male students doing the soil removal and as you can see in the first line of photos, the girls were putting the excess soil under the power lines.

In the two weeks before the concrete came, these students worked on their own to cement in the two rows of bricks and on completion of that task, then got the metal reinforcement and cut it to size. The students took a lot of pride in their work and NHS can’t thank them enough for the contribution they have made. Not only have the VCAL students worked on our path, but another group have worked on our garden, pruning and weeding and filling up our green bins.
Monday 4 June was the last visit this semester for our Diamond Valley College VCAL students. When they arrived at Ellis Cottage, they assembled in the Barn and presented Jean and Gwen with a beautiful orchid each and a yummy white mud cake. They told us how they enjoyed their Monday mornings at the Cottage and thanked us for the support and morning teas they received over the past 18 months.

The concrete was due to be delivered between 11am and 12 so while waiting for the truck to arrive, the students wanted to know if they could remove the dead tree on the side of Ellis Cottage. The students completed the task in 30 minutes, a job we had been asking the Shire to do for 3 months, and they then stacked the wood in the firewood tank alongside the garden shed. The students displayed their football skills, had a morning tea, and got out all the tools they would need when the truck load of cement arrived.

At 12.30 we got a call from the lost truck driver in Diamond Creek needing directions, and 10 minutes later it was all hands on deck. The concrete was unloaded into the first section directly from the truck but the second part of the path had to be wheel barrowed into place as the truck couldn’t get close enough. The concrete had colour added to it in keeping with the age of the Cottage. As the students were filling the path nearer the Cottage, another group were doing the levelling of the first part near the Barn. When the two parts of the path were smooth, the students were asked to decorate it with their names, hand prints, foot prints and we almost got a face print, the name of their College, the year and then Gwen added the names of all the current Committee members. A piece of history in the making.

Well done Diamond Valley College VCAL Class 2018

Note: This article was extracted from the Nillumbik Custodian June 2018
VCAL @ Diamond Valley College

Below is the link to the final version of the Cooking and Wellness video for you to download and use where appropriate. Get out the popcorn and enjoy the viewing.

Intergenerational cooking and wellness project video download

This as I think we would all agree was a fantastic project and a great demonstration of an effective community partnerships. I would like to acknowledge and thank everyone involved for your hard work, commitment and enthusiasm during the project, and to the students for their participation, respect, enthusiasm, great cooking and food delivery and particularly the way in which they embraced the project and interacted with both Richard and Rudi.

As a reflection of the success of the project (thank you to Bec from Nillumbik Shire Council), the project has been nominated and now shortlisted for LGA Aged and Disability Award. I will be attending the awards dinner along with Bec from Nillumbik on Wednesday 5th September, the dinner will follow the 2018 LGPRO Aged and Disability Services Seminar. I understand that this is an event that is attended by representatives from all local councils in Victoria and that each LGA is given an opportunity to nominate a project, how fantastic for us to have been shortlisted.

I will keep you all posted on the awards outcome.

Let me know what you think of the video. WELL DONE!!!!!!!

Regards,

Diamond Valley College VCAL class Community Project click to view
https://www.facebook.com/bnllen/videos/924137384406081/

Colleen Hughes
Partnership Broker
(Monday – Thursday)

Banyule Nillumbik Local Learning & Employment Network
Postal Address: PO Box 259, GREENSBOROUGH, VIC, 3088
03 9431 8011 0421 342 261  colleen@bnllen.org.au
This year we are sending 2 teams to the Tournament of Minds Regional competition. Participants in the teams range from Year 7 to Year 9 and have been working solidly for the past six weeks to unpack and solve their respective challenges. Please wish the following students the best of luck for Sunday afternoon when they present their solutions as a dramatic performance to a panel of judges at La Trobe University Bundoora!

**STEM team**
- Kiana Eygelaar (7.1)
- Alyssa Payne (7.1)
- Myles Burchfield (7.4)
- Guy Breaden (8.3)
- Jamisyin De Benedetto (8.3)
- Jenna Sharp (8.3)
- Brock Maulden (9.3)

**ARTS team**
- Zoe Templeman (7.4)
- Molly Flint (7.4)
- Benjamin Wilson (8.3)
- Jemma Sheppard (9.5)
- Trinity Eygelaar (9.5)
- Kylah Bullock (9.5)
- Tess Purchase (9.5)
STUDY TOUR OF ITALY 2019

Next year in April, a group of students will be heading off on a 23 hour flight to Italy. We will be visiting the main cities including Rome and Venice. I am so excited and grateful to be able to experience this especially with some of our peers and great friends. I am most excited to visit Florence because I have heard amazing things about it and the photos look incredible. Whilst we are there, we will also be meeting our pen-pals! This will be a great chance to get to know what a day in the life of a student my age in Italy would be like. Students involved need to remember to attend the meetings which are posted on Compass, so they need to read their news feed consistently.

FUN FACTS ABOUT ITALY

Did you know that Sorrento is a coastal town in southwestern Italy, facing the Bay of Naples on the Sorrentine Peninsula. Perched atop cliffs that separate the town from its busy marinas, it’s known for sweeping water views and Piazza Tasso, a cafe-lined square. Sorrento is the same name used for the suburb found near Mornington Peninsula in Victoria.

THANKS
By Jamisyn 8.3

Our Year 7 & 8 Debaters headed to Ivanhoe Grammar on Tuesday 21st August for our training evening. All debaters were excited to be part of the program and to represent our college. Their teachers were experienced adjudicators from the Debating Association of Victoria. They learnt the structure of formal debating and worked with teams from Ivanhoe Grammar; including the roles of each speaker and the meanings of matter, method and manner. Our teams will now prepare to take part in three formal debates where they will get to practice what they learned. Their topics will be:

“That all female athletes should have the same pay and conditions as male athletes”
That emojis reduce our ability to communicate”
“That violent toys and games should be banned for children”
Poems by 7.4 HAP ART in response to eX de Medici’s ‘Blue (Bower-Bauer)’

Skulls lay, by broken plates,  
of the people who, could not wait.  
To live the life that they’re not living,  
see the things they're not seeing.  
You see here the people lay,  
Broken, like the plates.

By Angel Borg

It all began with a fight,  
The plates were smashed; in hindsight.  
The woman screamed and let go of the orange peel,  
The flowers wilted; never able to heal.  
The little men and women sat perched on a shoe.  
It all just happened: out of the blue.

By Molly Flint

The big blue vase, standing tall and proud,  
along with the man, whose chest is loud.  
Smashed plates and big red flowers,  
Union Jack’s and skulls in thousands.  
Cut up orange and smashed up plate,  
Vases and bowls, but what’s the fate?

By Michael Guthrie
Following on from our notice in the last Newsletter, Parents are advised to check the College or PTV websites or contact Dysons Buses for any further information regarding services from the South Morang, Doreen, Mern-da areas.

Any feedback regarding PTV related services should be directed to one of the following;

Phone: 1800 800 007 Or Email; https//feedback.ptv.vic.gov.au/ptv-feedback

APPLICATION TO TRAVEL FORMS 2019

Parents and students please note that ALL bus travellers MUST complete an Application to Travel form for the 2019 school year, these forms are available, for download from the Diamond Valley College website. Applications should be completed IN FULL and returned to the General Office no later than Friday 5 October 2018 to allow planning for the 2019 school year.

PLEASE NOTE APPLICATIONS MUST BE ON THE CORRECT APPLICATION FORM, COMPLETED IN FULL INCLUDING THE CORRECT BUS AND STOP

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO PARENT/GUARDIANS WHICH WILL DELAY PROCESsing SO PLEASE ENSURE ALL SECTIONS ARE FILLED IN.

Late forms will be accepted however no guarantees are given regarding a place on the bus. Every endeavour will be made to accommodate students on their requested bus.

It would be appreciated if students travelling via the PTV buses could also complete an Application Form as this record would be helpful in the case of any bus related incidents.

TRAVELLING VIA A DIFFERENT BUS

There have been a number of instances recently of students wishing to travel on the College Bus Network or via a different bus to visit a friend. Please note that while there is no issue with students doing this, the College MUST have proof by either a note or phone call from Parents giving permission for this, with a $2.00 fee. In this way we are assured that you are aware of your childs change of normal routine. Students will not be permitted to travel unless these procedures are followed.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Bus Co-ordinator on 9438 1411.
We have plans for an amazing new community building in Diamond Creek and we need your vote to make it happen!

We want to build an eco-building to enable various outside groups to make use of our beautiful green space. This could include activities like garden workshops, kitchen gardening for children, therapeutic gardening sessions and a range of programs promoting healthy lifestyles and helping strengthen our wonderful community.

Our plan has been shortlisted for grant funding. Now we need you, the community to get behind this project and make it happen!

Please vote for us at:

http://bit.do/votethrive

31 Watkins St
Diamond Creek
(across from the netball courts)