It was a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 families for 2019 at our recent information sessions. Implementing a new format to accommodate busy families, the Sub School team offered three sessions. It was pleasing to see that most families were able to attend, allowing us the opportunity to introduce the wide range of opportunities and supports available to our students.

Yet again the stars of the sessions were the students, who performed and presented with confidence. There is no better promotion for our college than the students who engage in every opportunity presented.

At College Council a proposal has been presented to establish a Parents Association. We recognise that there are many parents who are keen to contribute and be involved but cannot commit to assisting at working bees or volunteering at the canteen. Now more than ever this will be key to our parents having opportunities to be involved. As our canteen moves to a private provider in 2019, volunteers will no longer be able to assist in the canteen. A Parents Association will be instrumental in establishing a variety of strong links between the College and our families.

Further to this, College Council has approved the engagement of H&H Canteens from the beginning of 2019. It will be a change to the service that we have come to expect, as Annie has cared for us all for many years. Having said that, we are confident that H&H Canteens will provide an excellent service to our students. I would like to thank the parents that participated in focus groups and students who visited local schools with me to investigate canteen providers. Their contribution assisted in making an informed decision.

The Uniform Sub Committee of College Council is currently meeting with a range of uniform providers as we move to tender our uniform supply contract in mid-2019. A priority during this process is to ensure that there is inclusion of uniform choice for girls with the addition of girls tailored trousers that match our current uniform offerings. A number of students have presented to council on this matter and their ideas have been well received. I appreciate the patience of our students as they wait for this alteration to our provision of uniform until we have a new contract with our supplier. Willow McFadzean and Elise Reuter of Year 10 have been attending each Sub Committee meeting as each supplier presents. They have represented the student body well, providing opinions and ideas for consideration. They will be seeking feedback, as suppliers provide us with samples of girl’s trousers in the coming months. There will be no other significant change to the uniform in this process.

We are still seeking a student representative to sit on College Council as required by the Department of Education and Training. It is an important role at the College, allowing a young person a say in the decisions made for the College and its students. The Council representative can be in any year level and need to be able to attend monthly meetings on a Monday at 5.30 pm. If you believe your child would be interested and you can support them to attend, please contact me at the college or get your child to email me via COM-PASS.

As Year 12 exams reach their conclusion I encourage our students to enjoy their final celebrations but to stay safe and look out for each other. I look forward to seeing them at their final formal in the coming weeks.

Allison Bennett
Principal
Diamond Valley College students enjoyed success with its Whittlesea Show entries on the weekend.

Over 6000 items of student work were on display in a number of different categories. Diamond Valley College entered 16 pieces of work, 10 being successful.

Award winners were:
- Keely Connell Year 12, who won 1st place and Best Secondary Exhibit in the Textiles Wearing Apparel category. A fantastic achievement!
- Ruby Dunstan Year 12, 2nd Textiles Wearing Apparel
- Emile Rose Clarke Year 12, 3rd Textiles Wearing Apparel
- Karley O’Dwyer Year 12, 4th Textiles Wearing Apparel
- Jasmine Roberts Year 7, 3rd Tech Studies Metalwork
- Rhiannon Pfeiffer Year 10, 3rd Tech Studies Woodwork
- Justin Thuys Year 10, 2nd Tech Studies Metalwork
- Max Laughlin Year 9, 3rd Tech Studies Woodwork
- Ian Jenkinson Year 12, 3rd Tech Studies Woodwork.

Congratulations to all participants and especially our student award winners. Well done!
Declan Duffey and Olivia Stewart represented Diamond Valley College at this year’s Remembrance Day service.

Ciao, mi chiamo Giulia Forlani, sono un ‘exchange student. Abito a Ravenna in Italia e ormai sono quattro mesi che sono qui in Australia, questo significa che non manca molto alla mia partenza per tornare in Italia. La scuola Australiana è molto diversa dal sistema scolastico che sono abituata a frequentare in Italia. All’inizio della mia esperienza ero abbastanza spaventata di iniziare una nuova scuola in un altro stato completamente diverso dal mio Paese Natale e all’inizio se devo essere sincera non è stato molto facile ambientarsi e costruirsi una nuova vita a causa della barriera linguistica, ma comunque ho conosciuto molte persone che fin da subito mi hanno integrata e aiutata.

Mancano due settimane al mio ritorno in Italia e ho un sacco di emozioni contrastanti non vedo l’ora di poter rivedere la mia famiglia e i miei amici che non vedo da molto tempo, pero’ non è per niente facile salutare persone che difficilmente vedrò in futuro, e che sono state fondamentali per me in questi mesi. Credo che tornerò in Italia come una persona diversa, indipendente e responsabile. E’ state la piu’ bella esperienza che avessi mai potuto decidere di intraprendere.

Hi. My name is Giulia Forlani. I am a student exchange from Ravenna in Italy. I have lived in Australia for the last four months and I have had such a wonderful experience. I will return to Italy a different person more independent and responsible. I would like to say a big thanks to my VCE Italian class and my Italian teacher who have made school a little easier. In addition, I would like to say thanks to all my teachers, new friends and my host family.

BY GIULIA FORLANI
Glen Fishlock won the Insight Year 11 English Award. This award acknowledges Glen’s progress and commitment to his English studies this year. The prize is a year 12 Insight resource pack valued at $300 to support Glen in his English studies next year. Congratulations Glen!

Our Year 7 & 8 had their final debate for the year on Tuesday 13th November. Both teams had to argue the negative for the topic that “That violent toys and games should be banned for children”. Both teams prepared well and approached the debate with a clear structure and well researched reasons why ‘violent toys and games should not be banned for children’. Molly Flint, Angel Borg and Zoe Templeman unfortunately lost the debate, however congratulations go to Ben Wilson, Guy Breadon & Jenna Sharp who had their first debating win.

This year, I took part in the Junior Debating Program. We had 3 debates, each of which were done at Ivanhoe Grammar. At the debates we learnt a bunch of skills, like how to write a speech correctly, how to refute the opposition. Debating is a lot of fun and is a great way to practice oral speaking. At the end of each debate, we each got individual feedback, which was helpful to improve next time. Each of the speakers on my team improved a lot from the first debate and the third debate. We had 3 training sessions, where we learnt how to write our speeches etc. Overall, debating is a great way to have a new experience, and a great way to learn how to present a debate formally. It’s a lot of fun to go against other schools, even if you lose every debate it’s still an amazing experience that I recommend to everyone.

Angel Borg

On Wednesday 14 of November five girls from DVC participated in a tennis competition at the Diamond Creek tennis court. We played 4 matches. We against Eltham High, St Helena and Montmorency. We all played well but Montmorency were the ones who went through to the next round. Everyone played a really good game. It’s was a great day. Thank you to all the teachers and students for coming along. A big thank you to John Reade for coming along and being a great coach to the DVC team.

Charlotte Beddoe, Alana Thwaites, Larni Bullock, Mia Ball and Jayme Larkin
URGENT BUS TRAVEL
PLEASE READ

CODE RED DAYS

With the onset of the summer season just around the corner, we feel it is important for parents to be aware of the College, and Departments policy regarding Code Red Days. The following information is taken from the Department Of Education website, please read and familiarize yourself with this information and as always feel free to contact me if you have any further concerns. It should also be noted that Diamond Valley College is on the Bushfire at-risk register.

“Schools and early childhood services that have been identified as being at high fire risk and on the Department’s bushfire at-risk register will close on days determined Code Red by the Emergency Management Commissioner.

Schools and early childhood services not on the Department’s bushfire at-risk register will remain open, unless directly threatened by fire or another emergency.

Where possible, four to seven days notice of a planned closure will be provided. Parents and carers should expect that in some instances fewer than four days notice may be provided.

Once a Code Red day has been determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast. This will help limit confusion and help your family plan for how your children will be cared for when their school or early childhood service is closed. Advice will be provided to you directly by your school or early childhood service.

When a school or early childhood service is closed due to a Code Red day determination, no staff will remain on site and all out-of-school care programs (including vacation, before and after school programs) will not operate.”

GENERAL INFORMATION

Following on from the last newsletter, let me again say thank you to all those parents who have paid their bus fees and those who have returned their bus applications for 2019. Unfortunately the issue of Application to Travel Forms is still an important one as many families have not yet returned them. ALL parents of bus travellers should note that an Application to Travel form must be completed every year of your child’s travel, this is a Department of Education requirement and travel without this form may be denied.

Email addresses should be included on your Application to Travel to ensure that you are kept up to date with important bus information.

Payment for travel is required by the Department prior to travel, therefore those few parents with outstanding fees will be required to make alternative travel arrangement for the rest of the year and into 2019 until payment is received.

Students will not be permitted to travel on a bus or via another bus without permission to the General Office from a parent or guardian.

As always, should you have any questions regarding the College Bus Network please feel free to contact me on 9438 1411. Enjoy the remainder of Term 4 and thank you for your assistance.

Roz
P.S. 5 weeks to go 😊
10 years on....

What are you up to now??

Are you under 28 and did you live in an area affected by the Black Saturday Bushfires?

We invite you to send us an image or a montage or perhaps a video (up to 2 minutes in length) representing what you are doing now and things you have been up to over the past 10 years. This might include work, hobbies, sports, travel.

Contributions will be shared during the 10th Anniversary.

Please email your contributions (or questions) to smoulderingstump@gmail.com

If you are under 18 and would like to contribute, you will need your parents’ consent.

Smouldering Stump is registered Australian charity providing support to children and young people affected by natural disasters