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

During the school vacation Allison Bennett had a boating accident which has meant she has not been able to return to Diamond Valley in a fulltime capacity as College Principal and it is my honour to be Acting Principal until Allison’s return.

As for every year the beginning of the term has been a very busy time. We have welcomed our new Year 7 students and students across all other levels. Year 12 students have been to their study camp, College photos have been taken and we are now preparing for the swimming carnival on Monday 18 February.

On Thursday 7 February the College held a Reflection Assembly to mark the 10 year anniversary of the 2009 Victorian bushfires. Many schools, staff and students were directly impacted by the fires. The Diamond Valley College community was impacted at that time and the assembly was able to hear through the College Captains (Oliver, Olivia, Hayden and Kiera) the level of tragedy faced by our community. Allison returned to address the students and made a very powerful contribution to the assembly. I would like to make a special mention of Vy Nguyen (Yr 12) who addressed the College conveying her and her family’s experience in dealing with the devastation of that day. This was very moving.

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

Shae Audley                     Sports Academy/Health/PE
Jessica Cox                        Food Technology/Health
Joanna Girolami               LOTE
Geoff Brasier                     Science
Wendy Moore                  Librarian

Returning to DVC:
Jess Ferry
Barbara Chiodo

2019 sees the College canteen being operated by an external company- H&H Catering- and we welcome Rita as the manager.

The building project is moving along with work continuing to complete the master plan and determination of stage 2 works. During the vacation the Minister’s Office confirmed that the original 1.98 million would be combined with an additional 3.0 million giving a total 4.98 million for our stage 2. The extra funds will require a review of our current priorities.

I wish everyone the best for a successful 2019 and I look forward to Allison returning in the near future.

Steve Chapman
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days’ notice of a potential Code Red day closure via COMPASS using email and SMS. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.

Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan — on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.

**What can parents do?**

- Make sure your family’s bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters.

Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.

If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family’s bushfire survival plan.


For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season see: https://emergency.vic.gov.au

Facebook (facebook.com/cfavic)  
Twitter (twitter.com/CFA_Updates)  
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters  
Vic Emergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
DIAMOND VALLEY COLLEGE

Information Evening Thursday 2nd May 2019
Secure your place at 5:30pm or 6:30pm at:

Diamond Valley College invites you to explore the many opportunities we have to offer your child, whilst supporting and challenging them throughout their secondary schooling to achieve their goals. To meet our College Principal, hear from the Junior Sub School Team, and see our facilities, please join us at our:

Information Evening Thursday 2nd May 2019
5.30pm or 6.30pm

To see our school in action, please join us at our:

Open Morning Friday 3rd May 2019  
Session1 9:15am  Session2 11:15am

Tours run regularly on Tuesday & Wednesday Mornings.  

Can't make it? Call to make an alternative tour time on 9438 1411.
DIAMOND VALLEY COLLEGE

offers a range of extra curricular programs

DVC High Achievers Program (HAP)
This program is designed to offer high achieving learners the opportunity to work in a challenging and stimulating environment. The curriculum is designed to enable students to gain broader and deeper knowledge through critical thinking.

- HAP Scholarships available 2020.
- DVC Sports Academy: currently programs in place for Netball & AFLW - launching boys AFL football program 2020 for Yr's 7, 8 & 9
- Upgraded facilities (performing arts centre and library resource centre)
- High Resolves (Years 9 & 10 as highlighted on channel 10’s The Project 2016)
- Literacy & Numeracy extension
- Visual Arts Club
- Leadership and SRC opportunities
- Instrumental music program
- School Productions and Musicals
- Public Speaking Program
- Robotics / Technology program
- Mentors
- A large range of lunchtime clubs
The Year 12 Camp Wilkin experience

The Year 12 Orientation Study Camp was held from Monday 4 February 2019 to Wednesday 6 February 2019. The camp at Camp Wilkin in Anglesea gave students the opportunity to explore a 15 acre property located within an easy walk to the beach. Students were able to participate in a variety of activities including the High ropes course, swimming, surfing, low ropes and team building initiatives.

The aim of the camp is to provide an opportunity for students to prepare for the study demands of Year 12, to establish a sense of teamwork with teachers and to promote the group identity.

The Year 12 Orientation Study Camp also contained a resilience workshop and study skills program. Guest presenter Scott Harris spoke of his life experiences, coming to terms with his injuries as a result of a motorcycle accident and the importance of setting goals and achieving them. 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.

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 or participated in a walk/run down the beach even before the day had started.

As a Year level, we will be following up on the activities commenced at the camp back at school throughout the year in home group, to continue the good work done at Camp Wilkin is reinforced and consolidated.

The camp was very well received and students had a good time and came away with a greater sense of what was required to be successful in Year 12.

Thank you to the staff that came and supported the students and ran activities on the camp: Ben Strickland, Cate Hambling, Selina Braine, Jane Overton, Graham Sinclair, Rebecca Taylor and Justin Matt.
Dear College Community members

Last year we said Farewell to a number of College Staff, most of whom had been a part of our College for many years.

Patrick McMahon
Glenys Alexander
Enza Natalizio
Christine Misale
Annie Brownrigg

To celebrate their contribution and time spent with the College, we are holding a dinner function on Thursday, March 28th – venue still to be confirmed.

Please set aside this date in your diary if you wish to join in this celebration. We hope to have the venue details finalised by the next edition of the newsletter.

Allison Bennett

Welcome back to all returning students, and welcome to our new Year 7 families. It’s always a busy start to the year getting everyone organised and one of the big jobs is getting people online and knowing what is available to help them with their studies.

For the Year 7s, they have had the following to deal with:

- Getting their DVC username and password. This gives them access to school computers, Wi-Fi, email, Compass, the Intranet (Moodle) and printing.
- Learning to use email to send work to their teachers and collaborate with other students.
- Getting their eduPass username and password. This gives them access to Department of Education services and free software. The most important part of this at the moment is that they can download and install Microsoft Office.
- Some of them have already started using Stile, which is our online Science learning platform.
- Making sure they bring their computer to class.
- Making sure their computer is charged each night ready for school.
- They should also have a Mathletics account.
- They will have electronic versions of textbooks they can register as well.

As you can see, it’s quite a lot to learn, so we are trying to do this in stages, and not overwhelm them with too much at a time.

**IT Support**

For students that still need help, or want to find out something we haven’t had to tell them about yet, there is always the IT Service Desk site, at [http://dvc-servicedesk.freshdesk.com](http://dvc-servicedesk.freshdesk.com).

This has answers to many FAQs, and some tutorials to help set up printing, or use eduPass.

If students still need IT support, they may come to the IT Office (in the library, next to Room C2) where our extremely knowledgeable and dedicated IT Technician, Leon Kolbe, or myself will assist them.

For hardware problems, we are the service point for devices purchased through the school portal, but for other BYOD devices it is the responsibility of the parent to arrange for warranty and servicing. Of course, IT support is there to help with software issues and access to resources.

Richard Fox (fox.richard.r@edumail.vic.gov.au)
Learning Technology Leader
Extra Mathematics Support at DVC

‘Maths Help’ is a support program staffed by the College’s Mathematics Teachers to enable students to obtain extra help with their maths work. This is offered in addition to the regular ‘out of class’ assistance that teachers provide. The sessions are offered so that students have further opportunity to ask about difficult questions and to clarify aspects of classwork they have not understood.

To get the best out of ‘Maths Help’, students should come along with specific questions to ask, e.g. “Could you help me with Question 4 of Exercise 3.4?” or “I am having difficulty multiplying fractions, could you go over the steps again?”

‘Maths Help’ sessions run after school Mondays, until 4pm, and Thursday lunchtimes, in B2, the Maths room.

‘Maths Mate Skill Builders’ - If your child is having difficulty with, or would like more practice at a particular maths skill, the Maths Mate Skill Builders are a very useful resource. These are booklets of worksheets, available to be downloaded in pdf form from the Maths section of the College Intranet, using your child’s login. Each worksheet begins with some instruction and examples followed by practice questions. Answers are located at the back of the book for checking. Scrolling through to page (vii) you will find the contents section, where each skill is listed. Skill Builders also contain a Glossary of important mathematical facts and concepts.

For any further information regarding these programs, please contact the Mathematics Domain Leader, Glenys Kidd, or your child’s Mathematics Teacher.

Hello from the Music Program!

Welcome back for another exciting year of music at DVC! Lessons will begin in earnest from the 11th of Feb after finalising staff timetables and student enrolments. Some students may have had a preliminary lesson in the first two weeks and we will settle into a consistent schedule shortly.

Spots for guitar/piano/vocal/drums are completely filled!

There remain only a few spots for Brass and Woodwind instruments. A reminder that Year 7 students will be lent a Brass or Woodwind instrument for free whilst they learn for the first 12 months.

Year 7s will join a Junior Band after the first term of learning notes on their instrument so get involved if you’re looking to meet other people interested in music!

Event and Concert dates will start to appear in Compass over the next few weeks. Keep up the practice and do get in contact if you have any questions about lessons or enrolments!

Pictured trying out some Brass Instruments: Mackenzie Hargreaves, Madeline Hanley, Ashlee Graham

Jim McGuffie
Instrumental Music Coordinator
Welcome back for 2019.

We are dedicated to the Visual and Performing Arts here at Diamond Valley College. Watch this space for upcoming events, local artist exhibition information and so on. Any students who left work in the S wing has until the end of next week to come pick up their work.

Events coming up this year:
- Art Club
- VCE Art & Visual Communication design excursions to Top Arts and Top Designs
- The production of ‘Mary Poppins’
- Artists talks and workshops
- The Creative Side exhibition

Selina Braine
The Arts Domain Leader
Diamond Valley College
Production of

**Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH's**

**MARY POPPINS**

**THE BROADWAY MUSICAL**

A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers
and the Walt Disney Film

Original Music and Lyrics by
**Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman**

Book by
**Julian Fellowes**

New Songs and Additional Music and Lyrics by
**George Stiles and Anthony Drewe**

Co-Created by
**Cameron Mackintosh**

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia.

**AUGUST 8 - 10 2019**
**DIAMOND VALLEY COLLEGE AUDITORIUM**
Welcome back to a new year. Benvenuto a tutti.

I would like to introduce Joanna Girolami our new Italian teacher who has joined DVC. She has spent the last 17 years teaching at Epping Secondary College and was also the Italian Domain Leader for the last four years. Joanna is originally from South Australia and has experience working in two states across several schools. She is looking forward to working with the students, parents and teachers.

There are about 7 weeks left until we leave for the Study Tour of Italy on 2nd April. This is very exciting. I would like to remind all the students involved that there will be weekly meetings so please check daily on Compass. If there are any questions please let me or Claire know.

THANKS
ROSE MARASCO
ITALIAN DOMAIN LEADER

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is reviewing the electoral structure of Nillumbik Shire Council and wants your input.

The review, known as an electoral representation review, will examine the electoral structure of the local council to ensure it provides fair and equitable representation for all voters. The review will look at:
- whether the local council has the appropriate number of councillors
- whether the local council should be unsubdivided, with councillors elected from the whole local council, or subdivided into wards and if subdivided, the number of wards, ward boundaries, and the number of councillors per ward.

Public input is a vital part of the review process, providing valuable local perspectives and knowledge. The VEC has prepared a submission guide to help in preparing submissions.

**The VEC will also host public information sessions for anyone interested in finding out more about the review. The sessions will be held at:**
- **7.30 pm Monday 11 February in the Nillumbik Council Chamber, 14-34 Civic Drive, Greensborough**
- **7.30 pm Monday 18 February at the St Andrews Community Centre Wadambuk, 35 Caledonia Street, St Andrews.**

To find out more about the review process and how you or your group can have a say, visit the [VEC website](#) or call 131 832.
News from Your Library

The library is a popular space at lunchtime, with students coming in to play card games, read, chat, or use their computers. It’s wonderful to see how much our students enjoy using the newly revamped library – it is a perfect communal space at the heart of the school.

We are excited to be working with the students of 8.4 and their teacher Ms Braine, to develop a new logo for the library. The students came to the library on a site visit to hear about our vision and values, and to look at the new library space. We’re looking forward to seeing their designs!

February 14th is Library Lovers’ Day and we invited all our patrons to celebrate by picking a book ‘to fall in love with’. The library staff were on hand to help find the perfect match for our library users.
Are you interested in ...

- Motorbikes
- Marvel
- Card & craft
- Knitting
- Library stuff
- Strategy games
- Books & reading
- Calligraphy
- Netflix series
- Manga/ Anime
- Harry Potter
- Horses
- Writing stories
- Dr Who
- Something else

Join a lunch time club in the library!
If there isn’t a club already, we’ll help you start one

How does it work?
1. Come to the library
2. Ask Wendy or Sue about the club you’re interest in

Too easy!
Firstly, welcome back to the 2019 school year. To those parents who have completed Application to Travel forms and/or paid Term 1 or more fees, thank you. To those who have not please read the important information below.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Parents please note: invoices for 2019 bus travel emailed out last year are now outstanding. As the due by date has been extended more than once, with several reminder emails forwarded during December students will no longer be permitted travel and parents will need to make alternative arrangements until further notice.

If you wish to use the college bus service during the 2019 school year an Application Form MUST be received by the Bus Co-ordinator for approval along with any payment if required. If no Form or payment has been received or no contact be made to date it will be assumed that your child will no longer be a bus traveller and their seat will be reallocated.

- If an Application to Travel and the appropriate payment has been received by the College a valid bus pass will be EMAILED TO YOUR CHILDS COLLEGE EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF YOUR CHILD STATUS ON THE BUS NETWORK.

Jpeg files should be saved to students mobile phones and produced for bus pass inspection if requested. This process will hopefully alleviate the need for replacement of lost passes. Student College email details are available from their Compass account and are in the following format; AAA0000@dvallcoll.vic.edu.au. Should you/your child not have received their pass, please contact me to arrange payment and/or completion of an Application to travel form. Students eligible for free travel must continue to use their 2018 pass until school photos have been updated.

Late Applications may result in your child being placed on a waiting list for Bus travel. Seats are allocated in order of receipt of Application Forms not prior travel. Forms are available from the General Office or can be downloaded from the College web site.

**CODE RED DAYS**

Please see the College website for details on Code Red day policy and procedure.

www.dvallcoll.vic.edu.au

As always, should you have any questions regarding the College Bus Network please feel free to contact me on 9438 1411.
DIAMOND CREEK TENNIS CLUB
28 PHIPPS CRESCENT DIAMOND CREEK

FREE SOCIAL TENNIS DAY
SUNDAY 24TH FEBRUARY
10AM - 2PM

Come and experience the hospitality of the Diamond Creek Tennis Club!

• Have a social hit with some of our members.
• Meet our experienced tennis coaches.
• Find out about our club membership, coaching programs and competition tennis.
• There will be tennis games for all ages and prizes to be won on the day.
• A BBQ and soft drinks will be provided.

For more information, contact the club on
0413 594 577 or shellpike@hotmail.com
Community Notice

Come along and join DIAMOND CREEK (DEVILS) BASEBALL CLUB Registration Day BOYS AND GIRLS, JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Sunday 3rd March 10am - 12 midday

Wednesday 6th March 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Campbell St Reserve Challenger St, Diamond Creek

Enquiries: Rick Campbell (President) 0438 721 962
email: diamondcreekbaseball@hotmail.com

Diamond Creek Community Bank® Branch Bendigo Bank
HURSTBRIDGE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
WANTS YOU

Currently fielding teams in the
following age groups

Auskick
Under 9s
Under 10s
Under 11s
Under 12g
Under 13s
Under 14s
Under 16s

COME & TRY DAYS
Sunday Feb 24th 10am-12pm
Sunday March 3rd 10am-12pm
Sunday March 17th 10am-12pm
Sunday March 24th 10am-12pm

Practice Match...

HURSTBRIDGE V
BUNDOORA PARK
...Sunday March 31st

Register at http://nfnl.org.au/football-player-registration-forms/