It is the beginning of December and the belief is that we are winding down. That is so not true of any school. It is one of the busiest times in a school, as the foundations for a successful year ahead are put into place and a number of fantastic events and programs are implemented.

Our World Challenge team arrived in Kathmandu, Nepal a week ago and have begun a truly unique adventure. They are looking forward to seeing the rewards of their training and preparation pay off as they trek the surrounding areas and complete a community project. A huge thank you goes to Ben Strickland and Serene Tresidder for committing to this challenging College event and who have given up time with their families to support our students.

We wish the Year 9 students all the best as they begin work experience for the next fortnight. It is fantastic that so many organisations are prepared to support our students in this pathways program, particularly with the number of OH&S requirements that are mandated. We know from past students that it is a valued program and one of experiential learning that is so different to the experiences within the classroom.

Prior to them finishing their formal classes, the Year 9 awards were held acknowledging academic excellence and commitment to studies and extracurricular activities. Congratulations to all students recognised but in particular I would like to acknowledge two. Evelyn Apted received the Dux for the year level and should be extremely proud of her achievements, and to Matthew O’Gorman who received the Principals Award, which acknowledges his overall contribution, and the manner in which he upholds the college values. Congratulations to you both.
Thank you to the staff that supported the Year 12 formal, which was a wonderful final celebration for our students. It was an opportunity to relax, reflect on the past year and say goodbye. We hope that those that are celebrating schoolies stay safe and look after each other.

Orientation programs are well underway and students are preparing themselves for their studies in 2020. Parents often wonder how they can support their children as they move on to more challenging studies. I encourage you to provide a place for home study that is comfortable, well lit and enough space for them to complete their work. Make sure they are prepared for the new year and have all of the texts and resources for each subject. Lastly, support them to read their novels over the Christmas break. Encourage them to read for enjoyment before they begin their analysis in English. This is particularly important at VCE but the routine of doing this begins in the junior levels. Read the books yourselves, that way you can engage in discussion about their work.

As you will be aware, a state-wide ban of mobile phones has been mandated beginning 2020. This is a result of a Ministerial Order, which means that all schools must implement the policy fully. It is time to begin discussing this with your child and how you can support its implementation. Students will be required to have their phones switched off and stored securely in the locker whilst they are on school grounds. This is from the moment they arrive until they leave the College grounds at the end of the school day. This will mean that if you wish to contact your child urgently during the school day, you will need to ring the General Office. We will get that message to your child at recess or lunchtime.

In order to support the implementation of this policy:

- We are upgrading some of the lockers to ensure that they are secure,
- students will have access to a subsidised combination lock if theirs is lost or no longer working securely,
- our CCTV has been approved by DET to be upgraded and will be extended to include areas where lockers are located and
- secure mobile phone lockers will be placed in Sub School Offices and the Assistant Principals office to store confiscated phones.

The DVC mobile phone policy will be amended to align with the Department of Education & Training’s policy and will include the expectations and management of accessories such as headphones, air pods and smart watches.

We will need to work together to make this transition and adjustment for our students a successful one.

Alison Bennett
Principal
Statement of Commitment

DVC is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.
Statement of Commitment
DVC is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.

**Game, Set, Match’ - BY Keilan Bryant**

The ball is tossed into the air.
As the ball is hit it shoots over the net like a meteor,
slamming into the ground with a mighty roar!
The ball bounces up like a coiled spiring, the opponent swats the ball like a fly.
The ball rockets up over the net like a rocket ship.
I return the ball gracefully.
The ball lands deep within the court and skims the ground like a flat rock on a lake.
The opponent, full of rage, smashes the ball into the net.
The game is won.

**The three “muzzle ears”’ - BY Keilan Bryant**

Prancer the whippet zooming around,
After rabbits, the airborne hound.
Cheeky and sneaky looking for food,
This whippet’s fast but also rude!

This beautiful smooth collie’s name is Storm.
Hug up against him and you’ll always be warm.
Gentle but firm, always the alpha,
Loves to sit around on the sofa.

Pocket, she’s a rescue, now she’s a queen.
She is the cutest, smallest thing you’ve ever seen.
Always alert and ready to bark,
she will always snuggle down before it gets dark.

**Untitled’ - By Anne Bothe**

It feels further than ever,
Yet as close as before
And darkness shrouds
Wherever it seems that the light should lead.
May it once more be bright
And open
And welcoming
When the path seems lonely and unceasing.

It feels like nothing comparable
And sounds like everything you’d never want to hear.
No matter who you happen to be,
Know that one day the feeling will succumb
And let it be known that,
Maybe soon the light will burn brighter than before.

**The Town’ - By Anne Bothe**

The desolate town remains quiet and closed,
And I wonder to myself if anyone knows,
If once upon a time it was bustling with people,
And completely alive,
Full of opportunities of all kinds.

On the corner there would be a baker, selling bread and cake,
With family from all over the country
Waiting to try a slice.
And the jeweller, with gems and crystals
Carefully cut,
Would make the rings for the newlyweds who run the nearby florist.
The arrangements so simple, yet gorgeous and balanced,
The colour so divine, and the smell, so fragrant.
What a shame, I thought
That none of it was real,
And that the town was so desolate
And now we’d have to start from the beginning again.
On Wednesday 27th of November the SRC held a fundraising event for the Red Cross. The students were allowed to come to school out of uniform for a gold coin donation. The school raised $350.30 to help the Red Cross. The SRC would like to thank DVC for their great effort.

The library has been very busy the last couple of weeks, with the Kpop club running on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Besides watching music videos and discussing lyrics and choreography, we have been watching a Korean variety show that features BTS, a Korean boy band, travelling around New Zealand.

This week we’ve challenged ourselves to complete a 500 piece puzzle and it’s a collaborative effort, with staff and students working together to put it together. It’s been a lot of fun and Felicity has offered to bring in another jigsaw next week so we can keep going. Thanks Felicity!

Lilly and Alanna in year 8 ran a ‘Book Title Poetry’ session in the library this week with their classmates. This involves finding a few books with titles that can be stacked to create a verse or sentence. It’s harder than it sounds but the year 8’s had a great time and produced some great results.
Diamond Valley College is supporting the Share the Dignity ‘It’s in the bag’ Christmas Campaign.

The concept is simple, you find an old handbag you no longer use and fill it with essential items for a homeless woman, or a woman experiencing domestic violence in Australia. We will be making up several bags and in the spirit of upcycling, would love any unwanted items you have around your house that fit the bill. No need to buy anything to support the charity (unless you would like to), rather just donating unwanted items you already have.

**Essential items include:**
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Pads and tampons
- Roll on deodorant
- Toothpaste and toothbrush

**The bags come to life with additional luxury items such as:**
- Make up (Must be unused)
- Purse
- Soap/Body wash
- Baby wipes/ hand sanitiser
- Jewellery, such as earrings (these would need to be new), necklaces, bracelets (used in good condition)
- Sunglasses (used in good condition)
- Moisturiser
- Nail polish/nail files
- Small gift or luxury items like a key ring, candle, notes book and pen

**If you would really like to help to support the charity.........**

**The next time you are in the supermarket, purchasing one or some of the essential items shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush, roll on deodorant, tampons and pads in would be a great help. I’ll be making up any holes in the bags.**

Things that cannot be accepted are:
- Perfume or spray deodorant
- Used make up
- Loose tampons and pads
- Sharp items like scissors or nail clippers
- Food items.

So in conclusion, if Grandma gave you some moisturiser you will never use, your partner gave you earrings for Christmas last year that are not quite you, your once cool Oakley sunnies are now out of style, you’re not keen on coconut scented body wash but own some................ (you get the idea) fling them our way.

Please take to the General Office. We will be collecting until Friday the 6th of December.

More info here

Jess Ferry
Statement of Commitment
DVC is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.

BUS INFORMATION

IMPORTANT

Several buses on the College Bus Network are now at capacity. If you have not completed an Application to Travel form for 2020 and wish to use this service, please be aware that you may be placed on a waiting list.

If you have registered for the bus but have decided to use another form of transport could you please notify the General Office as soon as possible.

Invoices have been forwarded via emailed requesting payment by Friday 13 December 2019. If you are unable to make payment by this date please contact me urgently as failure to pay may result in your child being placed on a waiting list if necessary.

Enrol from Monday for 2020 courses at Living & Learning Nillumbik – 119 Cowin St Diamond Creek.

Two exciting new courses starting next year – Digital Photography and Beginner Guitar - in addition to our regular language, exercise, craft and technology programs. Jump online from Monday to see what’s available and enrol http://www.livinglearningnillumbik.vic.gov.au/ Enquiries 9433 3744
Diamond Creek Community Bank Branch

Your best interests at heart.

3.24% pa
Variable Owner Occupied P&I Home Loan Rate

3.43% pa
Comparison Rate*

If your bank isn’t doing the right thing by you, change to one you can feel better about.

Drop into your nearest branch at Shop 8/75-77 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek or phone 9438 4133 to find out more.

bendigobank.com.au

Anita Tilley
Branch Manager
9438 4133

Bendigo Bank
The better big bank.

Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. All information including interest rate is correct as at 15 October 2019 and is subject to change. Full details available on application. Leading rates apply. *Important: Information about comparison rates: The comparison rate displayed is calculated for an (Owner Occupied), Principal and Interest Bendigo Basic home loan based on an amount of $250,000 over 25 years. WARNING: The comparison rate is true only for this example given and may not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees or other loan amounts might result in a different comparison rate. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 060 866 179 Australian Credit Licence 237076. 1370431.02100915.7 (04/19/42) [27/11/2019]

Statement of Commitment
DVC is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.