Last week I spent two days with our Year 7 students in camp. What a wonderful group they are! The feedback I had from staff at Phillip Island Adventure Resort and our team of teachers was nothing but positive. They engaged in every activity, supported and encouraged each other, and were respectful of other schools attending the camp.

I want to thank and congratulate them in the manner in which they have quickly become Diamond Valley College students, upholding our values and making new memories.

Fifteen staff and eleven Year 11 leaders supported the annual orientation camp, giving up their time to ensure that our new students had a wonderful experience. In particular, the leaders were fantastic. They set such a wonderful example to our younger students. The number of times I heard a student say “I want to be a camp leader in Year 11” demonstrates how much these students are looked up to. Many thanks to Jeorgia Darroch, Nik Easy, Will Guthrie, Logan Holmes-Moran, Tara Jones, Jack Marriott, Shelby Purcell, Tess Purchase, Tom Stewart, Tamara Swift and Kate Wilson.

Our students have been extraordinarily patient in a number of areas. The disruption of the roof replacement will continue for a number of weeks. The noise has been a constant, as has the need for room changes. Staff and students have approached all of this with good grace, knowing that the outcome is going to be a good one for the college. No more leaking roof!

Staffing continues to be problematic. We are still seeking to employ a suitable Art/Visual Communication teacher which is proving difficult. We have readvertised the position and are hopeful that an appointment will be made in the next week or so.

We have also readvertised for a replacement for Kara Vella, this being for the third time. We are grateful that ex Assistant Principal Steve Chapman has agreed to return to the college to take Kara’s classes until we can find the right replacement.

Nominations for College Council close shortly and I encourage you to consider taking on this important role. Applications can be downloaded from COMPASS or obtained from the General Office. We are seeking a number of parent representatives, as outgoing positions need to be filled. Council meetings and sub committee meeting taking place on a Monday from 5.30 and are scheduled on rotation each fortnight. It is an important way for parents to be involved in the DVC community.

We are fast approaching the end of term one and I encourage you to check COMPASS regularly for feedback on your children’s progress and discuss the learning goals that they have set for themselves. For Year 7 and 9 students term two is a time where NAPLAN testing occurs and I encourage you to talk about this with your child. It is not something that should be approached with anxiety or disregard but instead an opportunity for them to see where they are placed on a learning continuum. The information that NAPLAN provides teachers and students is an opportunity to see where their strengths lie, how their learning can be targeted to improve and for Year 9’s to demonstrate that they are meeting National Benchmarks which is so important as they investigate various pathway options. I will be speaking to each level about how to approach this testing, encouraging them to try their very best so that they demonstrate their learning growth from two years ago. Your help in having positive discussions around NAPLAN will assist our students in having a positive approach.

Allison Bennett
Principal
This year over 160 students attended the Year 7 Camp at Phillip Island Adventure Resort. The weather was almost perfect – a little overcast with some sun, but not too hot and no rain... well until the last morning, but that did not dampen our spirits as we canoed, surfed, climbed to great heights on the high ropes & giant swing, built team building skills making rafts and completing team games. Night-time saw students playing their very own survivor styled scavenger hunt and watching movies.

The aim of the camp is for students to meet and make new friends. This is so important in high school as some of the friendships formed on Year 7 Camp will last throughout high school and well beyond; these become lasting bonds. With seven home groups camp gives students the ability to meet students from outside their home group and work together as a whole year level.

In addition we had 11 Year 11 leaders this year: Jeorgia Darroch, Nick Easy, Will Guthrie, Logan Holmes-Moran, Tara Jones, Jack Marriott, Shelby Purcell, Tess Purchase, Tom Stewart, Tamara Swift and Kate Wilson. These students were amazing. They worked so well with our Year 7s to make their camp the best experience they could. Year 7s now have an older student who they know and our camp leaders have enhanced and expanded their own leadership skills.
Music so far has been great! At the moment we are exploring different music software such as Garage Band and Logic Pro to create a soundscape. On the first couple of weeks we explored how sound is produced and the qualities that tie music/songs together. We also made an instrument which was helpful because we got to understand how an instrument works as well as how it produces sound. I never realised there were a lot of layers to peel off to understand music from a different perspective.

Silvana Mardisich 7.4

Music has been good. We have done a lot like making a song on the computer. We made our own instrument out of stuff we found at home and we learnt the sounds of music, listened to some music and learnt about music.

Jed Bardon 7.4
I graduated last year from Diamond Valley College and now I am attending The Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne university, studying Visual Arts specialising in painting. A big jump for a local kid from Diamo but the involvement in the arts at DVC lead me to be studying my passions and making my dreams a future. Being the big fish on campus at DVC to now having my peers and faculty members being exhibited on the largest platforms for art in Australia and internationally inspires me because I am viewed to have the same skills in the arts and an equal to my peers.

I entered high school enjoying the arts but never saw it as my passion, I really liked maths and information technology. I sang in primary school and did the concerts, but art didn’t draw me in and I always thought I was terrible at painting and drawing; but I remember art classes and music classes in Year 7 and falling in love with it. I remember signing my name up to learn an instrument and really wanted to play saxophone; but Gary gave me a trumpet and after my first lesson with Jim and I was hooked. Mum freaked when I brought it home because every time I played it she thought it was the plumping stuffing up!

I learned that consistent practice and willingness to learn concurred fears and developed skills that I still keep. I played trumpet in the Diamond Valley College Jazz band for the whole time I was in high school. My other big achievement was my involvement in every musical and play at my time at DVC.

Throughout my time at DVC I did music every year as an elective, Drama 8 - VCE, Viscom 10 and Art 7-9 and 12. Returning to Art in Year 12 was the best decision I ever made, with the help of my strong teachers and mentors I achieved very high scores in all my subjects. I studied English, Further Maths, Drama, Art and Music performance (classical voice): the first ever student to study classical voice in DVC history and I made everyone proud by achieving an A for my performance!

I applied for four creative art based courses and one music course after long consultations with Gary, Ben and Selina. All courses were either interview based or audition. The application process required sending emails detailing why I wanted to study and what I was doing in those fields of art practice. I received 4 offers: 3 from Melbourne and one from RMIT. My audition was for musical theatre at VCA. I sang well and performed a monologue, but the dance call threw me for a loop; being six foot something and not being able to see! One out of 30 auditioning got a call back, it wasn’t me but that was ok, the experience was amazing. My interviews for visual arts both went really well; they seemed to like me and the pieces I brought in, I spoke about my time doing Year 12 Art and who I was. Both RMIT and VCA offered me their visual art course and I accepted the VCA offer.

Without the Arts I wouldn’t be the person I am or be at the places I am at now. The Arts at DVC allowed me to grow into myself as a person and find positive ways to think and express myself. I commend Ben Strickland, Eva Dean, Gary Nicholls, Selina Brain, Jo Poulter, Jim McGuffie, Barbara Chiodo and all the art teachers for being the mentors and motivation to let me be me.

Things happen for a reason, I was meant to play trumpet, I was meant to split my pants while performing in the Winslow Boy and I was meant to be the artist I am because of the work of the Art domain. In the wisdom of my friend Callum Parker: “don’t give up on a piece because the first working turns out bad, you can work and create something gorgeous with a mess”.

Nicholas Currie Graduated 2019

My first day in studio painting
On Wednesday night 6 students were lucky enough to attend a performance of Shakespeare’s play ‘The Twelfth Night’. It was performed under the stars in the Botanical Gardens by the Australian Shakespeare Company. The students were able to take a picnic and eat and drink during the performance.

Students have been studying Elizabethan Theatre over the past few weeks and this was a wonderful opportunity to see a play performed live on stage.

In Italian we are learning the numbers from 1-100 and the Italian alphabet. It has been interesting and fun to know that Italian does not have the following letters, j,k,w,x,y.

**Alesha Palmer 7.2**

Durante le classe d’italiano noi stiamo studiando i numeri da uno a cento e anche l’alfabeto italiano. E’ stato molto interessante e divertente a sapere che l’alfabeto italiano non ha queste lettere, j( i lunga ) k (cappa) w ( doppia vu) x (ics) e y (ipsilon).

**Da Alesha Palmer 7.2**

Italiano è molto divertente. Noi usiamo un programma intitolato ‘Education Perfect’. Mi piace veramente perché posso imparare alla via mia e ha molto giochi e attività a completare quando sono a casa.

**Mackenzie Turner 7.2**

Italiano è molto divertente. Noi usiamo un programma intitolato ‘Education Perfect’. Mi piace veramente perché posso imparare alla via mia e ha molto giochi e attività a completare quando sono a casa.

**THANKS**

Rose Marasco

Italian coordinator
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.

On Friday 28th February ten of our students represented Diamond Valley College at the Banyule/Nillumbik combined Division swimming carnival at Aquarena. All performed extremely well and represented our school proudly. To qualify for the next level (Northern Metropolitan Region NMR) the swimmers had to finish either first or second in their event. Below is a list of our students that qualified for NMR and the events they qualified for:
Alexis McIntosh – Girls 12-20 (open) 100m Breaststroke, Girls 16 50m Breaststroke
Charlotte Beddoe – Girls 12-15 200m Freestyle, Girls 15 50m Backstroke, Girls 12-20 (open) 400m Freestyle
Guy Breaden – Boys 15 50m Breaststroke (new Division record), Boys 12-20 (open) 100m Backstroke, Boys 12-15 200m Individual Medley
Anjali Watson – Girls 18-20 50m Breaststroke, Girls 18-20 50m Butterfly, Girls 18-20 50m Freestyle, Girls 18-20 50m Backstroke

We also had one relay team qualify for NMR: Girls 18-20 4x50m Freestyle. The members of the team are Sienna Beddoe, Charlotte Beddoe, Alexis McIntosh and Anjali Watson.

Front L-R: Sienna Beddoe, Anjali Watson, Charlotte Beddoe, Katie Salter, Alexis McIntosh, Jacob Said, Guy Breaden.
Back L-R: David Carnie, Myah Tregea, Ben Shinkfield, Ben Wilson, David Finlayson.

NO ENTRY TO SCHOOL CAR PARKS
Dear Parents/drivers
The school car parks are for staff members and visitors only and parents/driving students must not enter and/or park in these areas. This is for the safety of your children as well as everyone else’s children.
Students may be dropped off out the front of the school or in the Community Stadium car park.

STUDENT PICKUPS DURING SCHOOL DAYS
If there is a requirement for any student to be picked up early from school, please remember to send a note with your child on the day, indicating the time you will be picking them up.
The student will then have a pass to give to their teacher to release them from the class room.
No announcements can be made through class time to call the students up.
We understand there will be unexpected times or emergencies, but for known circumstances please send a note.
Your assistance with this process is greatly appreciated.
BUS INFORMATION

IMPORTANT

TERM 2 BUS FEES ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE BY FRIDAY 27 MARCH 2020.

Fees not paid by this date will result in students not travelling Term 2.

Please note several buses on the College Bus Network are now up to capacity with students on waiting lists. These seats will be reallocated where fees are not paid. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are unsure.

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.
Come and play!

Greenhills Montmorency Baseball Club

T-Ball Program for 5-9 years of age
Friday nights 6pm-7:15pm
14 Feb - 1 May

Under-11 / 13 / 15 teams
Saturday mornings
Start April 2020

Greenhills Montmorency Baseball Club
Malcolm Blair Reserve, Karingal Drive, Greensborough
Contact: juniors@montybaseball.com.au
www.montybaseball.com.au
Join in the fun at the Meet Pi Maths Festival

The Meet Pi Maths Festival is a community event for students up to Year 9. The idea was initiated by a student with the desire is to bring children of different ages and abilities together, to have fun collaborating to solve problems while exploring the richness and wonder of maths.

The festival will feature games, puzzles and craft-based activities to suit youth with a range of interests, not just those who have already discovered their love for maths. Participants can move between the activities at their leisure and join any Activity Table that interests them. It is a non-competitive event, so there are no scores, no prizes and no time-limits.

"Not only will the festival allow many of our youth to get together and solve maths problems, it's also a fun inclusive environment that anyone - regardless of their love for maths - can be a part of."
- Karen Egan, Mayor of Nillumbik Shire Council

Book online at meetpi.com.au. Places are limited and bookings essential.
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