ISSUE 2-3

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our Vision
Mercy Regional College serves a wide rural community which values growth and diversity in Catholic Education in the Mercy tradition.

Our Mission
In the Spirit of the Gospels we commit ourselves to the core values of community, inclusiveness, learning, care, justice and mercy, excellence and achievement.

Our Focus for 2012
Through the Mercy tradition we support, acknowledge and strive for personal excellence and achievement.

The Coming of the Holy Spirit
When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Acts 2: 1-4

This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, a time of great celebration in the Church where we remember the arrival of the Holy Spirit amongst the Apostles and the impetus this gave to their vocations as missionaries of Jesus Christ. The Lukan author of this passage uses vivid and striking language to capture the excitement and awe of this moment - the descent of the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire sitting above the heads of the disciples. And the disciples themselves are gifted with the ability to speak with, teach and give witness to people of all nations and creeds. The leaders of the early Church had been given the tools necessary to take the message of the Risen Christ to the world.

A number of writers reflecting on the purpose of Catholic schools and the role of leaders, teachers and staff in these schools have used the themes of Pentecost to describe this work. Given the increased secularization of Australia, the Christian message is profoundly countercultural in its advocacy of natural law, the sanctity of life and a renewed commitment to justice and development. The fire of the Holy Spirit alive in the early disciples and the inspiration of Pentecost offer much to us today - those who work in Catholic education and all who share its vision.

Mercy Regional College Feast Day
Next Tuesday 29th May, the College celebrates our Feast Day with both campuses coming together to celebrate Eucharist in the de Chantal Stadium at 11.30 am. Mass will be followed by a whole school assembly in which a number of student achievers will be recognized. The afternoon will be filled with the 3rd Mercy Battle of the Bands competition. All parents, family members or friends in the Mercy community are warmly invited to join us for mass and to stay for as much of the day as you wish. Our College community is always enriched by the presence and support of families and friends.

Special Guest at the Year 11 Street Retreat

The Year 11 students and staff who travelled to Melbourne last Monday for their Street Retreat were thrilled to spend part of the night in the company of Australia’s Governor-General, Mrs. Quentin Bryce.

The Governor-General was in Melbourne for two days and spent time assisting a number of charities and organizations working in support of those in need.

Mrs. Bryce was followed along the trip by a news crew from “The Age” who did a long piece on the Governor-General’s work in last Saturday’s edition. Unfortunately, the presence of the newspaper meant no photos for our students or staff.
NAPLAN
Last week, like all schools across the country, students spent several hours undertaking the NAPLAN tests which look at literacy and numeracy levels amongst our Year 7 & 9 students. I would like to congratulate both the students on the mature and conscientious way they completed each of the tests and our Year 7 & 9 teachers for the work that was done in advance of the tests preparing students for what would be involved. The results of this year’s NAPLAN tests should be available in September.

Mercy Regional College Cross Country
Last Monday, the whole College community gathered at Terang to participate in the annual Mercy Regional College cross-country. Students in the different age groups completed a 5.5 km run from Terang to Noorat finishing just inside the O’Keeffe Campus gates. Full results are published in this newsletter. Congratulations to all students and staff who were involved on the day given the inclement weather at the start of the race.

Principals’ Conference
This week, I had the privilege of attending the annual Principals’ Association of Victorian Catholic Secondary Schools Conference in Creswick. The theme of the conference was “The Principal as Faith Leader: A Journey of Spiritual Transformation” with opportunities across three days to explore my role, and that of other leaders at Mercy, as a leader of the College faith community.

Student Achievements
• Congratulations to Rachael Rais-Colvin (11C) who was recognized with a “Local Sporting Champions Award” last week. Rachael was presented with her award by local Federal Government member, Mr. Dan Tehan in her homeroom.

• Congratulations to Lewis Taylor and Nick Bourke who have been named in the Victorian Country Under-18 Football Squad.

Along the Track
Please find on page 12 of the newsletter another reflection from Jim Quillinan of the Sale Catholic Education Office in Warragul, titled “Mistakes we all Make”.

Yours in Mercy,

[Signature]
DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

Deputy Principal Wellbeing
Mr. Kerin Glennen

Subject Selections
Mrs. Jenny Phillips and I have spent some time with the Year 10 students earlier this term introducing the process of subject selection for VCE, as well as speaking about various possible career and study pathways.

Presently students in Years 11 and 12 are encouraged to attend Open Days at various Tertiary Institutions throughout our area and in Melbourne. We are also encouraging our Year 10s to attend at least one Open Day this year. By attending an Open Day at a University or TAFE College, both students and parents gain an understanding of what is offered and what is required for a student to attend University or TAFE. Just because you visited a University and or TAFE college once, it does not mean you can’t revisit these institutions at a later date.

Mock Interviews
Our Year 11 students participated in “Mock Interviews” today. Each student submitted their résumé and application letter to a panel. The students then sat a job interview. At the end of the process each student received feedback from the people who interviewed them. This program is intended to assist students when they have to attend a “real” interview. We are very grateful to all the people who gave of their time today to be part of the interviewing panel. They were from various industry groups, local businesses, the education sector and the Corangamite Shire.

Try a Careers Day
On Friday 1st June, our Year 9s will be involved in “Try a Careers Day” which will be held at South West TAFE, Sherwood Park Campus, Warrnambool.
Careers
Throughout this year our present Year 9 students each have a term of career studies.

Each group works through several tasks including developing a résumé, completing online business modules and planning for their Work Experience in 2013. Although you may think that preparing for Work Experience in 2013 is a long way off, there are several variables that come into play, one being the number of students that we have in our present Year 9 cohort. We presently have 4 homerooms of Year 9s, a much larger group than before, an extra 25 placements and so we need to be proactive in locating and supporting the students to obtain a worthwhile work placement.

The Year 9 students are encouraged to discuss with their parents about where they want to go for their placement. So far, several of our students have already approached a number of businesses and other work places in Camperdown, Colac, Geelong and Melbourne. The students have embraced the chance to research and discuss work placements, as well as complete the necessary paper work. All Year 9 students will complete this process throughout the course of this year.

I have been delighted with the students’ positive attitude and to the parents that have sought clarification from me, I thank you. Work experience is a wonderful time for our students. The photos below are of students participating in Work Experience this year as well as a report from Jennifer Rowan about her experience.

`JENNIFER ROWAN - WORK EXPERIENCE REPORT`

When I was asked what I wanted to do when I leave school, I had absolutely no idea. When I was 6, I had planned on being a Princess. When I was 12, I was going to be a nurse and when I was asked about Work Experience at 15, I was clueless. I thought about my hobbies and interests and decided that music was probably a good spot to start. After emailing 10 different places, I finally found somewhere that accepted work experience students.

Trying Music Therapy at the Royal Melbourne Hospital was probably the best thing I've ever done. I now have a greater understanding of what working full time is all about and know exactly what I want to be when I’m older. It's really important to be kind, polite and understanding whilst on your Work Experience, otherwise they won’t want you back. At the end of my week at RMH, I offered to come back and volunteer whenever they needed, which I think most students should consider if they enjoy it, as it will look great on a resume. Teachers are always ranting on about not leaving it until the last minute, and I could not agree more, I was so lucky to get in at RMH. I handed my form in the year after it was due! That and going out of your comfort zone is probably the best advice I was given when looking into Work Experience. Travelling around Melbourne was the scariest thing I've ever done, but by the end of the week, I just wanted to go back and do it all over again! Which I will probably do sometime this year. I'm glad I did get Melbourne sorted out during that week, as within the next couple of years, I will be travelling there more often, attending opening days and thinking about what the future holds.

Being organised will get you a long way once you hit Year 9, because the rest of College is the business end, getting on top of all this early is a good idea, because once you hit VCE, there won’t be enough time to go to Melbourne on weekends. I could not have been happier with my Work Experience as a music therapist at Royal Melbourne Hospital. I was offered so many fantastic opportunities such as seeing how music videos are processed, song writing with cancer patients and singing with palliative care patients. The smiles on some of the people’s faces I met, was unforgettable and singing with these patients, and getting to know them was something that will always stay with me.

Some reminders

- McAuley Library:
The Library is open each afternoon until 4.30pm and is a warm and inviting area to do your homework or study in.

- Correct Uniform/ Grooming:
The weather is now turning inclement for all, just a reminder regarding the correct winter uniform. If your son/daughter is out of uniform then they need to furnish their homeroom teacher with a note regarding why this is so. The Year 12 students are able to wear their new blue jumpers on Fridays only as explained to them by Mr. James Castles.

Our students are asked to take pride in their appearance and maintain a high standard of neatness. Any concerns regarding what students are and/or are not able to wear, can be found on page four of the student diary and/or contact your son/daughters homeroom teacher.
**Workplace Health Checks**
This week several staff from both campuses took up the offer of a free 15 minute health check. These were coordinated by staff from the Work Health organisation.

Each participant had to fill out a short questionnaire with the information focusing on their life style. The checks were a confidential health assessment that took around 15 minutes for each participant. Each staff member received immediate feedback and advice based upon their results. The check included information and preventable measures that can be undertaken for Type 2 Diabetes and Heart Disease.

Those who took part in the program spoke positively about the health checks and the manner in which they were administered.

**Director of Religious Education**
Mrs. Jo-Anne Saunders

**Social Justice Committee**
Tika Peruvian scarves: The Social Justice group has purchased 100 scarves from Peru to be sold early in Term 3. The scarves will be sold for $18 each and every cent will return to Sr. Patricia McDermott's women's group in Peru. This small industry helps to employ a number of village women living in poor conditions in Peru. See their story below and/or visit their website [www.tikaperu.org](http://www.tikaperu.org) for more information.

**OUR STORY**
With significant unemployment, poor education and inequity amongst the population of Peru, people struggle to take care of themselves and their families.

In 1996, Mercy Sisters Joan Doyle, Patricia McDermott and Jackie Ford RSM chose to live and work with the people of Cerro Candela, Tres de Mayo and tex-Hacienda. An area in the northern zone of Lima, Cerro Candela is very poor, has no paved roads, no running water or sewerage and has very high levels of unemployment.

There are many positive outcomes resulting from women’s employment including reduced poverty and better health and education for children. Therefore, the Sisters chose to focus their efforts on improving the lives of women and children in particular by offering practical help – a source of clean water – education, child-minding and medical facilities.

Funding for the project has come from generous Australian donors and through sales of handicrafts and knitted products.

The Tika Fashion workshop was established in 2006 to focus on producing high quality, knitted products including school scarves, gloves and beanies as well as footy scarves and other unique gifts.

100% of the sale of the goods produced by the workshop goes directly to the women in the workshop providing a fair, living wage and a clean, pleasant working environment in which to learn new skills and socialise.

Tikaperu markets these products in Australia and is staffed by volunteers

"The establishment of the knitting workshop has given many women the chance to learn new skills, have meaningful employment, and enjoy the company of their colleagues. They take great pride in the work they do. It gives them a chance to escape the poverty of daily life in this city."

Sister Patricia McDermott RSM
The Social Justice Committee has also been very busy this term raising awareness in many other areas.

**Year 11 & 12 students** will be sharing in a presentation about "Beyond Blue" regarding healthy mental attitudes. There is also now a wonderful Social Justice Noticeboard at the McAuley Campus.

**Year 10 students** are ready to work towards fundraising for the "Mercy Beyond Borders".

**Year 9 students** are preparing to focus on Daffodil Day later in the year.

**Year 7 and 8 students** have prepared wonderful notice boards and are ready to begin fundraising and awareness activities for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and the Butterfly foundation which focuses on positive body image.

**Reconciliation Week: 27th May - 3rd June 2012**

Reconciliation week will be recognized in both our Campus Libraries this coming week. Using the new TV technology in each library, rolling displays of important information, images and historical documents regarding reconciliation week will be on display to the students and staff. Reconciliation is a Justice Issue in Australia and one which is at the heart of the Mercy Ethos, therefore it is important to highlight Reconciliation week in the best way possible.


This is a wonderful website with many great initiatives that families or schools or any community group may wish to use.

**MRC Connecting with the Community - Guest Speakers Galore!**

Over the coming month there will be a number of community guest speakers for our students linking to the Religious Education Curriculum.

Year 7 students: Mrs. Helen Kenna will present a brief history of the College to the students and in particular, the fervor with which the Catholic Regional College began. Helen will focus on the driving force behind the College and the strong commitment to faith, learning and care, that has lead us to Mercy Regional College as it is today. This talk links to our current unit of study, "How do we belong?"

Year 7: St Vinnies representatives from around the region coming to speak to students about their important ministry. Linking to the next unit of study, "How we make a difference". Students will be asked to bring a non-perishable food or grocery item to donate to St Vinnies on the day.

Year 8: Representatives from the St Vincent De Paul conference in Terang will support our Year 8 students by helping prepare their lunch on 7th June at the Year 8 "Social Justice" retreat day at the Noorat Community Centre.

Year 11: As part of the Year 11 RE Curriculum, students have this week, visited the Holocaust Museum in Melbourne, a rich and challenging experience in every way.

Year 12 students will have the privilege of a presentation by Stef Lloyd who is the Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator. Stef will draw on her own experiences to speak to the Year 12 students about living out life through different ministries and using our gifts, talents, skills and future study/career to support those less fortunate both locally and globally.

The Social Justice Committee continues to meet at both Campuses every second Tuesday.
Term 2 is already in its sixth week and for a long term it is rolling along extremely fast. There has been plenty of action to report starting with our Middle School Certificate recipients for Term 1.

The following students were awarded their certificates at our Middle School Assembly on the 9th May.

**Year 9**

- **Nathan Stevens**
  Excellent athletic achievements.

- **Ebony Reynolds**
  Providing great support for new students.

**Year 10**

- **Steven Krybolder**
  Excellent leadership and cycling achievements.

- **Bridget Anders**
  Excellence in raising money for Caritas.

All these students have displayed an excellent attitude to their studies this year and have gone that extra yard to perform outside the classroom as well. If you know these students or see them in passing congratulate them on their efforts. Hopefully they continue to perform and become prime candidates to win the Middle School Award at the end of the year.

I continue to encourage all students in Year 9 & 10 to strive for this achievement this term. This is also another opportunity to thank Southwest Imaging & Printing of Noorat for their kind donation of our Honour Board and certificates for our award.

Year 10s were blessed with the presence of two guest speakers on the 8th May. Ricky Ladson (ex-Hawthorn premiership player) and Paul Faulkner (CEO – Nike Asia Pacific) ventured out and provided the Year 10 level with inspiration to pursue their goals. The main message from the speakers is to set achievable goals and to continue to re-set and move forward as these goals are achieved or not achieved. Persistence is extremely important.

On the Year 9 front we have had some great results from our Football team that won the Hampden Cup competition played on 9th May at Terang. All students performed outstandingly and did the College proud.

I would also like to congratulate Georgia Watson on her efforts while competing in the U17 Football National championships in Adelaide a few weeks ago. Georgia was selected in the Victorian Development squad that competed. Unfortunately they didn’t win the championship but were a great support to the overall champion Victorian team.

Also congratulations to Courtney Stevens for breaking a record in Shot put at the BSW Athletics last Friday. Excellent effort.

On Friday the 15th June we will be hosting the first Year 10 Issues Day. The focus will be on Road Safety. There will be a number of guest speakers and hopefully will be a worthwhile experience and an eye opener for our next generation of P-plate drivers.

We are midway through Term 2 and well done to all in Middle School. Keep up the good work and continue to strive for bigger and better things. Exams are only a few weeks away so make sure your preparations begin early.
Street Retreat Report
Paige, Rachael, Georgia, Maddy, Verity, Emmelie, Aaron, Tyler & Giles.

On the 14th & 15th May our super team of nine students plus Mrs. Sharyn Grinter and Mr. Ben Brisbane travelled to Melbourne for the Street Retreat.

We were informed that there was going to be a special guest for the night and we eventually found out that it was the Governor General, Mrs. Quentin Bryce. She was with us for the first two stops which was very interesting.

On our arrival at the St Vinnies kitchen we prepared sandwiches and packed the vans for a big night; we had an awesome production line going on. After we made sandwiches we followed the soup vans to the different stops, there we handed out toiletries and clothing with socks and soap being the most popular.

It was really great to meet so many different people and surprising how cheery most of them were. There were a few times where after we offered someone a toothbrush they answered with something like “got no teeth, darl” none of us really knew what to say after that. It was touching to see the hope among the people getting food and how they took care of each other. All the kinds of people that we engaged with were all about looking forward and were very grateful for the St Vinnie's van and the volunteers. It was a great experience and we learnt a lot.

Interschool Dressage
Report by: Verity Watt

On Friday 11th May several Mercy students competed in the Emu Creek inter-school dressage event. It was great to see how many riders Mercy had and how well turned out they all were. After an equal first of Terang College and Mortlake College came Mercy with the second highest score. The top three contributing scores belonged to Tineke Jehu, Elle Price and Erika Grant.

For several years Mercy has not had enough people for a team, let alone a highly competitive one which seems to be an up and coming force to be reckoned with.

The Mercy equestrian team was one of the schools with the top amount of competitors which was great to see. Keep up the Great work everyone.
Sports Report
Stacey Hillman

Cross Country
On Monday 14th May the College conducted the annual House Cross Country championships with the weather providing a great challenge for everyone! It was great to see almost every student participating and in their house colours with some very close results on the day. Frayne made it a clean sweep for 2012 taking out first place. Well done to all involved.

1st: Frayne 238 points
2nd: Markey 211 points
3rd: Ryan 195 points
4th: Tindley: 167 point

Age group champions:
U/13: Claudia Lee, Amy Hammond (dead heat) and Jay Coolahan
U/14: Kate Hallyburton and Josh Hickey
U/15: Haylee Davis and Marnie Jones (dead heat) and Mitch Carlin
U/16: Elle Price and Dermott O'Connor
U/17: Emily Field and Declan O'Connor
U/20: Hannah Absalom and Seamus Conheady and James Keough (dead heat).

Fastest time for the day: Declan O'Connor 18.14 minutes.
**Barwon South West Athletics**  
*Stacey Hillman*

The students who competed in Warrnambool last Friday in the BSW Athletics produced some outstanding performances, all students should be proud of their efforts.

Below are the students who broke records and who placed in the medal tally, winners will progress onto State Finals in October.

If you see them around congratulate them!

**Lachlan Bone:**  
3rd Javelin

**Jay Coolahan:**  
3rd 200m

**Jake Crawley:**  
3rd Shot Put

**Olivia Duynhoven:**  
2nd Triple Jump (record)  
2nd 100m (record)  
1st High Jump (record)  
1st 200m

**Nathan Monk:**  
2nd Long Jump (record)  
2nd 200m

**Declan O'Connor:**  
2nd 100m (record)  
1st 400m

**Courtney Stevens:**  
1st Shot Put (record)  
2nd Discus

**Georgia Wareham:**  
1st Javelin

**U/17 boys relay:**  
1st 4x100m relay (record)

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**Hampden Country Cup Senior Football**  
*Charlie Bradshaw*

Thursday 24th May was the final of the Hampden Country Cup senior football. The match was held at Colac Central Reserve against Colac Secondary College. This would mark the third time the two schools have met in the final, unfortunately it would be Colac who was victorious on the day despite an even contribution from the Mercy Bears. Small forwards Joe Arundell, Aaron Carlin and Matthew Field were lively providing run and a goal each while Jake Crawley and Dylan Jones were solid in defence. The midfielders gave the forwards a number of opportunities, in particular Michael Salmon and Sam Crawley. Although the boys couldn’t come away with the win the spirit and team work was a highlight throughout the senior footballing year. Well done Mercy Bears.

**Final Score:**  
Colac Secondary College 10 7 67   def   MRC 6 6 36

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Best Players</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jake Crawley</td>
<td>Dylan Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Crawley</td>
<td>Michael Salmon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan Sargeant</td>
<td>Tommy Moloney</td>
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VCE EXAMS
Mr. Lachie Lee – Head of Teaching & Learning VCE

Those VCE students who are studying Unit 3/4 subjects will be sitting half year exams beginning Tuesday 12th June.

Specifically, this will include those students from Years 11 and 12 who are studying Psychology, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

All Year 11 and 12 students who are studying a Unit 3/4 subject in 2012 will sit the General Achievement Test (GAT) on Thursday 14th June. All Unit 3/4 VCE exams in 2012 will be held at the Camperdown College Stadium.

Year 11 students will also sit the Mercy Regional College end of semester exams beginning Monday 18th June. A timetable for these exams will be issued to students next week and a copy included in the next newsletter.

I have attached a copy of the June VCE Unit3/4 exam timetable and also a copy of instructions which has been issued to all MRC VCE students. We have been through these instructions with all the students. They also have a copy of the VCAA’s Examination Navigator which details times and dates of exams.

At this time, students may be feeling quite stressed, therefore it is important that they are quite well organised and that those around them know what is going on. If you have any questions please contact James Castles, Lesa Thornton or myself at the school.

Exam Expectations VCE 2012
1. All exams this year are to be held at the Camperdown College stadium.
2. You will be expected to be at the Camperdown College stadium at least 10 minutes prior to the exam. Your teacher will need to mark you off. This is a legal requirement and must be observed. Because of the numbers in Years 11 and 12, students sitting the GAT are asked to be at the exam centre at least 15 minutes before the exam.
3. You will be expected to wear normal winter uniform.
4. You will need the requirements of the exam i.e. calculators, dictionary etc.
5. The practice in the past has been to allow those students who have an exam the following day to have a day off in preparation for the exam. This is to be used correctly. Students who may wish to come to school in order to catch up with teachers are to wear school uniform and to situated in the library, the relevant class or be with the teacher. The only students who can wear casual clothes are Year 12s and this only after their breakup at the end of the year. Year 11 students are always to be in school uniform, when at school, during the exam period.

6. All students from Years 11 and 12 who are studying one or more Unit 3 and 4 sequences are required to sit the GAT. This task is sat over three hours in strict exam conditions. The results are used in helping the assessment of exams, in particular where there are difficulties in reaching an agreement over a particular result. I quote below the VCAA definition of the GAT’s role and its importance:

Although GAT results do not count directly towards a student’s VCE results, they play an important role in checking that school assessments and examinations have been accurately assessed, and in determining Derived Examination Scores. So it is important to sit the GAT and do as well as possible on all parts of it.

The GAT is used in these ways because achievement on the GAT is a good predictor of achievement on other assessments. If students have done well on the GAT, then their achievements are likely to be high on their school assessments and examinations.

Clearly, some GAT questions relate more closely to achievement in particular studies. The VCAA takes this into account when it calculates students’ expected achievements in each study for each school. For example, GAT results in mathematics, science and technology play only a minor part in calculating students’ expected achievements in humanities studies.

- contributing to statistical moderation of School-assessed Coursework
- reviewing school assessments in School-assessed Tasks
- checking the accuracy of examination marking
- calculating the Derived Examination Scores. (VCAA website)

Thus, it is important that all students sit the task and do so to the best of their ability.

7. When travelling as a group from MRC to the Camperdown College, normal school rules regarding cars will be enforced. Therefore, if travelling as a group to the GAT for example, all students will walk and leave their cars at MRC. Clearly, this is an Occupational Health and Safety issue to which all students must adhere.

June examinations and GAT timetable
Each examination commences with a 15-minute reading period which is included in the times shown in the timetable.
**Term 2**

**31 May**
- HSSSD Cross Country
- VCE Units 3 & 4 Top Cats Excursion

**01 June**
- “Try a Careers Day” in Warrnambool for Year 9s

**06 June**
- ICAS Science Competition

**07 June**
- Year 8 Retreat @ Noorat

**08 June**
- Year 12 Exam Study Day
- HSSSD Badminton, Table Tennis, Volleyball

**11 June**
- Queen’s Birthday Holiday – No school for Students

**12 June - 14 June**
- VCE Unit 3 Exams

**15 June**
- Year 10 Issues Day
- Year 11 & 12 Students Retreat Day

**18 June**
- Years 7 to 11 Exams

**19 June**
- Years 7 to 11 Exams

**20 June**
- Years 10 & 11 Exams
- Unit 3 Outdoor Ed Camp @ Grampians

**21 June**
- Unit 3 OE Camp @ Grampians
- BSW Cross Country

**22 June**
- Unit 3 Outdoor Ed Camp @ Grampians
- Student Free Day - Exam Correction

**25 June**
- PTFA Meeting (7:30PM) – O’Keeffe Campus

**29 June**
- Term 2 concludes

**Term 3**

**16 July**
- Commencement of Term 3 for Staff & Students

**19 July**
- HSSSD Basketball – Intermediate & Senior

**24 - 27 July**
- Unit 2 Outdoor Ed Camp to Mt. Buller

**31 July**
- Year 7 - 2013 Enrolment Interviews

**1 August**
- Year 7 - 2013 Enrolment Interviews

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**Reminder to Parents Regarding the Following**

**Central Australia Trip**
Payments – please make sure they are paid on time. The deposit of $100 was due by 18th May. If you have not paid the deposit for your child or you have changed your mind about going, please inform the College straight away as we have other students on the waiting list.

**Chocolate Drive**
Payment of chocolates must be finalised before the end of this term:

- Friday 29th June.

**School Absences**
If your child is going to be absent from school for part of the day or longer, parents are required to ring the College first thing in the morning to advise us. Please phone either the McAuley Campus on 5593 2011 or the O’Keeffe Campus on 5592 5353.

**Work Placement**
If students have to change work days it is a condition of work placement that you advise the school office and the students home room teacher in advance of what day students will be working.
Along the track

Mistakes we all make

I recently attended an exhibition of Amish crafts, a most impressive display to say the least, but I was quite surprised at the number of people examining each article in almost forensic detail to find the mistakes! I was reminded of the oriental carpet weavers; just like the Amish craft, even the most beautifully woven and expensive oriental carpet will have some imperfection. And it is quite deliberate.

Such a mistake or imperfection is based on the deeply felt religious conviction that you and I can never do anything perfectly – only God can! So the ancient Persian carpet makers and the Amish, by including a small mistake in their work, are praising God who alone is perfect.

Hard as it is for us to admit at times, you and I all make mistakes. Rabbi Brash, in his book How Did It Begin – Customs, Superstitions and Their Romantic Origins, tells of a 17th Century British Astronomer Sir Paul Neal. He was observing the moon through his telescope when he thought he recognised an elephant on the lunar surface. After widely publicising this amazing discovery, he later had to apologise profoundly because, in fact, a mouse had crept in between the lenses of his telescope.

Not all mistakes are bad – like the Amish and the Carpet Weavers, they remind us of our fallibility as well as God’s creativity. Sometimes we just don’t know all the facts. It is hard to avoid mistakes that are due to our ignorance. Rather than being afraid of making mistakes, however, we can gain valuable experience when we learn from them. Noted educationalist, Sir Ken Robinson wisely said that if you are not prepared to be wrong, you will never come up with anything original.

We can’t avoid mistakes, we fall short, we are inadequate. Our first mistake is in not trying to find the answer to the question “how much of our daily life depends on God and how much on myself?” If we are honest with ourselves, we would probably have to agree that we often put more trust in what we do rather than in what God can do, what God is already doing! We are more at home with applying our own efforts to reach our goal than with being open to and relying on God’s grace. We need to seek a balance between God’s work and our work.

Finding that balance isn’t easy – if we say everything depends on God, it can lead to a situation of falling to pull our weight and not taking our responsibilities seriously. On the other hand if we believe everything depends on us, we are ‘being God’. There is a balance. One measure is when we approach situations, try to assess the quality of your love compared with the amount of self-concern in your heart. Why am I doing this? Because I want the best for the other person, because I want to do something to alleviate their situation, to make life better for them or because it will make life easier for me, I will get praise, I will feel better and so on.

When we pray, how much do we focus on God compared with how much we focus on our own concerns? Do we spend our prayer time telling God what we want God to do or what we think ought to be done, what the outcome should be? Or are we open to what God is already doing, even if we can’t quite see it? Sometimes we will only believe what our limited minds can grasp rather than being sensitive to the presence of God who is already lovingly at work. Even before I began to pray – in fact, my prayer may help me to become more aware of God in whom we live and move and have our being (Acts 17:28).

We can fail to make allowances for other people’s weaknesses, when a generosity of spirit is called for. We can become sarcastic and put down others because we don’t like them much. We can be very quick to excuse ourselves for our poor behaviour yet can come down hard on the failures of others – they just don’t measure up to our standards or the way we think they ought to behave. It comes easily sometimes to thoughtlessly judge people by how they look or on some other superficial aspect of their mannerisms instead of basing our estimation of the inner qualities and character of the person. Jesus said: “Do not judge and you will not be judged; because the judgements you give are the judgements you will get, and the standard you use will be the standard used for you.” (Matthew 7:1-2). The Amish and the carpet weavers teach us that only God is perfect!

When we come to understand that God is at work in ways that we cannot even imagine, we can become generous in our praise of others’ efforts, not afraid to compliment people on their achievements. We can become more trusting of God who loves us, who inspires us and who calls us to ultimate happiness.

God calls us out of ourselves and beyond ourselves just like Jesus did when he called Peter to have courage and to step out into the deep, to walk across the water. Faith asks us to have courage, to step into the deep, to take the risk of believing, of trusting, to take the road less travelled. If we are to find God, we must have similar courage and take the risk of believing, as good old Impulsive Peter did. Half way through, though, Peter started doubting and started sinking! If we have never made a mistake we have probably never taken a risk!

Regards
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1 May 2012
FOCUS ON CAREERS IN GAMING & ANIMATION

There aren’t any jobs in Gaming…right? There can be a perception that studying games development or design is a waste of time and money—there aren’t any jobs in the industry I hear people say. The answer is—there ARE jobs in the industry and there are plenty of career options as well.

The gaming and animation industries are growing and according to Youth Central Victoria, “over half of Australia’s game development industry is based in Victoria”. If you have the passion, the skill base, the ability to create networks and the drive, you should consider pursuing a career in gaming or animation.

Types of Careers in the Gaming and Animation Industry

- 2D Artist
- Programmer
- Musician
- Online Administrator
- Quality Assurance
- Producer
- Gaming Journalist
- Distributor
- Product Manager
- Immersive Virtual Reality
- Technologist
- Consultant
- Animator
- 3D Model Artist
- Visual Effects Artist
- Games Tester
- Level Designer
- Audio Designer
- Script Writer
- Magic Book
- Technologist
- Technical Support
- Artificial Intelligence
- Component Integrator

Examples of Institutions and courses in Victoria and Tasmania

Qantm College: “Qantm College is one of Australia’s leading digital media educators providing specialist training in 2D and 3D animation, games design, games programming, interactive digital media, and graphic design”. www.qantm.com

Academy of Interactive Entertainment: AIE claims to be the leading educator for the Computer Game Development and 3D Digital industries. They offer courses from introductory to Advanced Diploma in areas such as Game Art and Design, Game Programming, 3D Animation for Film & TV and Visualisation Effects. www.aie.edu.au/

Human Interface Technology Lab (HIT Lab), Australia: The HIT Lab is unique in Australia and is located at the University of Tasmania. It is one of several HIT Labs across the world and the technology used in the course is cutting edge, involving the latest developments in virtual and augmented reality, gaming and simulation. www.hitlab.utas.edu.au/
FOCUS ON CAREERS IN GAMING & ANIMATION

Find a course that suits you: Many Victorian Universities and TAFE Institutes offer courses in areas such as Games Programming, Games Development, Games and Interactivity, Games Graphics Design, Games and Graphics Programming and Animation and Interactive Media.

To find a course that will suit you, go to www.vtac.edu.au and search for game or gaming in the course search box.

Examples of companies that hire gaming and animation graduates: Venom Games (UK), Evolution Studios (UK), Black Square Games (Hong Kong), ICHN Games (ACT), Bioware (USA), Krome Studios (AUS) and Prophecy Games (AUS).

Gaming Boot Camp, Monash University: This is a 7-day event for students 15 years and over who love everything about gaming. The event will be held between 7 – 13 July and the cost is free. For more information and to register, go to https://cgbc.infotech.monash.edu/

MONASH University
Information Technology

Monash University IT Challenge 2012: You have the opportunity to enter the IT Challenge competition. There are 10 categories. Entries can be team based or individual and your final entries must be in by 22 June. For information about the categories and entry requirements, go to http://infotech.monash.edu/promotion/competition/s/it-challenge/

VOCATIONAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Environmental Science at Deakin University: Discover your wild side at Deakin is a short video that gives potential students an insight into what a field trip experience is all about. It follows second and third-year Deakin environmental science students as they participate in a field trip to the wilderness of the Otway Ranges to study wildlife. To watch the video, visit www.deakin.edu.au/scitech/les/courses/undergrad/env/video/otways/

Careers in Legal Services: Do you know what jobs exist in the legal sector apart from becoming a lawyer or barrister? Law clerks, paralegals and legal executives may be employed by law firms, government departments, legal aid organisations, financial institutions, corporations and court registries.

They perform legal work on behalf of clients under the supervision of a lawyer and can specialise in areas of practice such as litigation, conveyancing, personal injury compensation, criminal law, family law, probate or corporate and commercial law. To find out more about careers in legal services visit: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/ad015

RESOURCES

The Good Universities Guide: assists young people to make informed decisions about university study in Australia. The guide contains information about what a degree is, what you can study and where, and it contains independent 5-star ratings and comparisons of courses and providers.

To search the site, go to www.gooduniguide.com.au/
**RESOURCES**

**The Job Guide:** provides comprehensive information on hundreds of occupations. For each occupation, you can find out what you do on a day to day basis, what school subjects you need, where you can study courses related to the occupation and state specific information. It is an excellent guide for young people and their parents. To explore the site, go to [www.jobguide.dee.wa.gov.au](http://www.jobguide.dee.wa.gov.au).

**Myfuture:** is a comprehensive site that gives students and their parents information on occupations, industries, scholarships, courses, careers etc. There are videos, quizzes and a mini career explorer to help you narrow down your options. To explore the site, go to [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au).

**So You Want to be a Doctor?** This book by Kerry Breen has been written specifically for young Australian students wishing to study medicine at an Australian University. The book is very comprehensive and will give you all the information you need to know in helping you choose the right course, to the application process to starting and getting through your degree. To order the book, go to [http://shop.acer.edu.au](http://shop.acer.edu.au).

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Year 10 Information Evening at Deakin University:** This event is for Year 10 students and their parents and aims to assist students to start to plan their VCE, university and career options. You will be able to

- Find out about Deakin’s range of courses
- Meet with current students
- Hear from speakers living their career dream, and
- Have a free dinner!

The dates are as follows: Melbourne Burwood- 5 June, Warrnambool (includes combined parent information evening and VTAC Info session)- 6 June, and Geelong Waurn Ponds- 12 June. Please register at [www.deakin.edu.au/future-students](http://www.deakin.edu.au/future-students).

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**Interesting in joining the Police Force?** Charles Sturt University will be holding a MyDay Policing and Psychology event on Tuesday 19 June in Bathurst. This event suits students in Years 11 and 12 who are interesting in Policing, Justice Studies and Psychology. To register, go to [www.csu.edu.au/myday](http://www.csu.edu.au/myday).

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**Interested in Law?** The Melbourne Law School offers the Juris Doctor (Master of Laws). This is a graduate course, whereby you complete a Bachelor Degree first and then apply for the Juris Doctor (JD).

If you are interested in finding out about this program, you should consider attending the Melbourne JD Showcase on Wednesday 4 July at the University of Melbourne between 9.30am – 4.30am. For more information, go to [www.jd.unimelb.edu.au/schools](http://www.jd.unimelb.edu.au/schools).

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**Passionate about acting?** The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) will be running a three-day intensive acting workshop in partnership with GOTAFE Regional Academy of Dramatic Arts (GRADA) at Benalla.

You must be at least 16 years old and you can participate in workshops focused on voice, text and process. The workshops run between Wednesday 4 – Friday 6 July. To register, contact Lorraine Little: 03 9035 9229 [vca-perfartshortcourses@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:vca-perfartshortcourses@unimelb.edu.au).
MAY EVENTS


- **30: Medicine Information Session**, Monash University, Clayton Campus, [www.monash.edu.au](http://www.monash.edu.au)


JUNE EVENTS

- **MyDay Events**, Charles Sturt University, Community Health- Albury Wodonga Campus (1), Dentistry and Health- Orange Campus (4), Policing, Justice Studies & Psychology- Bathurst Campus (19), Creative Industries- Wagga Campus (26), [www.csu.edu.au/myday](http://www.csu.edu.au/myday)

- **Focus on Melbourne University**, Environments (5) and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (7), [http://go.unimelb.edu.au/w6c](http://go.unimelb.edu.au/w6c)


- **5, 6, 12: Year 10 Information Evening**, Deakin University, Burwood (5), Warrnambool (6) and Geelong (12) Campuses, [www.deakin.edu.au/future-students](http://www.deakin.edu.au/future-students)


JULY EVENTS

- **RMIT Experience Days**, Medical Laboratory Visits (2 – 6), Computing, Animation and Information Technology (3), Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (3), Electrical and Computer Engineering (5 & 6), Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations (10), Community Justice (11) and Health and Medical Sciences (12), [www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays](http://www.rmit.edu.au/experiencedays)


- **4 – 6: VCA Acting Workshops**, GO TAFE Benalla, [vca-perfartshortcourses@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:vca-perfartshortcourses@unimelb.edu.au)


AFL SportsReady has a number of exciting opportunities in the Geelong region for young people looking to complete a traineeship or an apprenticeship in:

- Horticulture
- Sport and Recreation
- Banking and Finance
- Retail
- Business

Employment information sessions will be held on 28 and 29 May, 2012. For further session details, or to register your booking, please contact Emily Spicer on 8413 3523 or emily.spicer@aflsportsready.com.au

Get off the bench and kick start your career with immediate hands on experience combined with tertiary education. Get the best of both worlds and earn while you learn!

Check us out at aflsportsready.com.au and on facebook today!

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**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND**

We all do things to enhance our lives; fitness programs and diets to improve our health; Professional Development programs to improve our job skills. We offer you an opportunity for married couples to give a wonderful gift to your children by enhancing your marriage through a Marriage Encounter weekend. We invite you to invest in your most precious asset, your marriage.

Please join us in 2012. Take a look at our website on www.wwme.org.au

Our weekends in 2012 are:

15-17 June (Anglesea), 10-12 August and 12-14 October (Melbourne).

For further information and bookings contact: Marianne & Marcel Van den Bronk 9733 0997 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au
PARENTS – you are invited to an information evening...

“Alcohol and other Drugs—
WHAT’S YOUR PLAN?”

Monday 28th May—7.30pm
Killara Centre—Camperdown

This information session will complement our new
Alcohol & Drug Resource Book

CORANGAMITE & MOYNE SECONDARY SCHOOLS

This event is hosted as a joint initiative of:
Camperdown College
& Cobden Technical School

Helping to create discussions about keeping your child safe

Guest Presenters:
Leigh Bartlett – BATFORCE
Tania Barbary – Victoria Police

This event will be catered—light supper
and refreshments provided.

To book your place please call

Fiona Harrington, Secondary School Nurse
Call: 0419896756

Corangamite Shire: Phone: 5593 7100
ARTIST FORUM 3
Adrian Doyle
Painter

May 18th 1-2:30 pm
Venue: Sherwood Park, shared facilities Room: F101

Melbourne Artist Adrian Doyle is Director of Blender Studios and Melbourne Street Art Tours.

Adrian Doyle - I believe that for more than a century, the idea of the suburban lifestyle and the values it promotes have tremendously influenced Australian culture and identity. Suburbia is where families can stay with each other, enjoy their free time away from their workplaces, and focus on what they consider to be the important things in life. This contemporary version of the Promised Land is where Australia lives. It is in this homogeneous ideology that Australia finds much of its character. Houses come together to create massive and vast suburbs, row after row of houses scar the Australian landscape. These houses are where people live out their entire lives; where people grieve, love, grow and learn, in comfort, and in conformity, with the rules dictated by popular culture. It is here, in the suburban home, where they experience life and death, and it is here that their dreams seem to be realized or forgotten.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
1300 648 911 or email info@swtafe.vic.edu.au

This forum is kindly sponsored by Warmambool Picture Framers

THE WESTERN PLAINS PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB INC
Are presenting their 4th Annual Photographic Show on 27th October 2012.
NOW is the time to start thinking about and/or start taking photos.
Check out our new category and new section on the schedule.
For further information phone:
Lorraine on 0407 87 5102 or Lynn on 5596 2192, 0418 567 413.
WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

It's simple to participate:

From the 9th May, parents who shop at Woolworths can collect stickers from the checkout operator and place them on sticker cards.

There is one sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco, and gift cards).

When you fill up your sticker card, you can place it in the collection box, either at school or at your local Woolworths.

Please remember to ask for your stickers from the checkout operator as they may not automatically give them out.
Do you play a musical instrument?

You are invited to perform at the Inaugural ‘Jean Wood Jam in June’, an Instrumental Music Concert for local instrumental music students. The ‘Jam’ is being held on Friday, 22 June at Noorat Primary School Hall at 7pm.

Instrumental music students who reside in or attend school in the districts of Terang, Camperdown, Mortlake and Timboon are invited to perform solos or in small groups. Students will need to fill out the Enrolment Form below and post it to: Jean Wood Jam in June, PO Box 190, Terang 3264 or email it to ifpugh@bigpond.net.au by Friday, 15 June.

The Concert or Jam has been organized by the Jean Wood Memorial Instrumental Music Scholarship Committee to provide another performing opportunity for local instrumental music students, and to promote the Annual Jean Wood Memorial Instrumental Music Scholarship to music students. (Auditions for the 2012 Scholarships will take place on Saturday, 15 September.)

The Jam also celebrates Jean Woods’ love of music and her encouragement and support for local instrumental music students. Jean Wood worked as a piano teacher, and as a Classroom Music Teacher at Terang Primary School and other district schools from the 1940’s until the 1980’s.

The winners of the 2011 Jean Wood Memorial Instrumental Music Scholarships have been invited to be Guest Artists at the Jam. A delicious supper with a Jam theme will also be provided!

A piano, keyboards, drum kit, CD player and music stands will be provided to assist performers. If students require piano accompaniment, this can be arranged for a small charge by phoning Fiona on 0437 588 785.

For further details, please contact Fiona Pugh via Text on 0437 588 785 or phone Jo Kenna on 0458 926 011 or 5592 6267.

Let’s Jam for Jean in June!
ENROLMENT FORM

JEAN WOOD JAM IN JUNE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONCERT

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

YEAR LEVEL: ___________ SCHOOL: ________________________________

TEL: ____________________________________________________________

TEACHER'S NAME: ____________________________

INSTRUMENT: ____________________________________________________

TITLE OF PIECE AND COMPOSER: ________________________________

LENGTH/TIME OF PIECE: ________________________________________

I REQUIRE (PLEASE CIRCLE)

CD PLAYER  PIANO  DRUM KIT  KEYBOARD

MUSIC STAND /S

POST THIS FORM BY FRIDAY, 15th JUNE TO:

JEAN WOOD JAM IN JUNE
PO BOX 190
TERANG 3264

OR EMAIL TO: ifpugh@bigpond.net.au