

MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3-3

21st August, 2015

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 2015

"Through the Mercy tradition we encourage our community to seek knowledge, to nurture curiosity and to love learning".

From the Principal

One of the most powerful of all human emotions is hope. It is the capacity of people to hope that gives life its supernatural quality, perhaps hoping against all probabilities and evidence, perhaps hoping for a result that seems impossible but, in the end, hoping. And, perversely, it is the loss of hope that can remove that same supernatural quality to life.

Today's prayer recognizes our human need to hope,

A Prayer for Hope

*Heavenly Father, I am your humble servant,
I come before you today in need of hope.
There are times when I feel helpless,
There are times when I feel weak.
I pray for hope.
I need hope for a better future.
I need hope for a better life.
I need hope for love and kindness.
Some say that the sky is at its darkest just before the light.
I pray that this is true, for all seems dark.
I need your light, Lord, in every way.
I pray to be filled with your light from head to toe.
To bask in your glory.
To know that all is right in the world,
as you have planned, and as you want it to be.
Help me to walk in your light, and live
my life in faith and glory.
In your name I pray,
Amen.*

Celebrating Holistic Education

Last week, together with Mrs. Jo-Anne Saunders, Mr. James Castles and Mrs. Lynn Wadley, I was privileged to attend the 2015 biennial AMSSA Conference which brings together senior staff from every Australian and New Zealand secondary school that has current or historical roots with the Sisters of Mercy.

One of the characteristics of Mercy education and Catholic schools more generally that was celebrated was their commitment to, and capacity to offer, a holistic education – one that embraces academic, spiritual, physical, social and psychological aspects equally. This commitment is one that is taken very seriously here at Mercy and activities in term three provide clear evidence of this.

Below are listed several examples involving students and staff:

- *High School Musical* – The three public performances of "High School Musical" went very well with cast and crew receiving fantastic applause and feedback both during the shows and on return to school last week. Ticket sales were significantly up on those recorded for 2013's Mercy Showcase with Friday night's performance a sell-out. The production team will undertake a review of all aspects of the show ahead of plans being put in place for a possible 2017 production. A full list of cast and crew is included later in this newsletter.
- *MRC/St Patrick's School Barn Dance* – Congratulations to all those who contributed to the overwhelming success of last Friday night's Barn Dance at Camperdown's Theatre Royal and particularly to the Mercy VCAL students under the leadership of Mrs. Jo Williams. From all accounts, it was a fantastic night.
- *Grandparents' Day* – Coming up on Thursday 27th August, O'Keeffe Campus will host a morning for grandparents and special persons. This initiative provides a lovely opportunity for students to recognise and celebrate these important people from whom many of us take significant inspiration.

- *Battlefields Tour* – Preparations are almost complete for the upcoming third Mercy Battlefields Tour to Europe. Students, staff and parents have recently enjoyed another information evening under the leadership of Mr. Lachie Lee and I am sure that bags may already be out and luggage lists prepared.
- *2016 Student Leaders* – Over the next two weeks, the process leading to the election of Mercy Regional College's Year 12 student leaders reaches its conclusion with candidates speaking to their peers, to the College staff and will also undertake meetings with the College Principal. Congratulations to those students who have taken the risk in putting themselves forward as potential student leaders.
- *Mercy Instrumental Evening* – On Wednesday 26th August, the College's MPA will be filled with the talent and enthusiasm of Mercy's musicians. Starting at 7.00pm, it promises to be a wonderful evening under the leadership of the College's Instrumental Music Coordinator, Mrs. Janet Backhaus. Good luck to all.

"High School Musical" Cast and Crew

CAST

Demby McKenzie	Lauren Huth
Joshua Newcombe	Ebony Reynolds
Luke Lenehan	Tess Lourey
Tate Tregea-Copeland	Abby Tobias-Richardson
Jack Hands	Hayley Riches
Martinique McKenzie	April Martin
Billy Buckingham	Susie O'Brien
Olivia Martin	Lily Lourey
Sam Bond	Zoe Baxter
Hayley Wason	Sophie Rowan
Skylar Carpenter	Jessica Cheslett
Casey White	Eliza Johnstone
Kaitlyn O'Neil	Jordy Hickey
Isabel Rowan	James Anderson
Tara Suri	Katie Erwin
Laura Hickey	Amy McKenzie

BAND

Jane McSween	Keyboard 1
Bonnie Ailey	Keyboard 2
Gary Alexander	Drums
Katie Erwin	Percussion
Amy McKenzie	Guitar
Jen Rowan	Guitar
Wes Erwin	Electric Guitar
Ross Irving	Bass Guitar

CREW

Director/Choreographer:

Freya Egberts

Musical/Co Vocal Director:

Jane McSween

Producer/Front of House:

Jenny Phillips

Co Vocal Director:

Toby McKenzie

Assistants to the Director:

Jo-Anne Saunders

Melissa Brisbane

Stage Manager:

Darren Egberts

Backstage crew:

Louis Johnstone, Deanne Fleming, Kaitlyn Martin, Rebecca MacDonald, Rachel Uebergang, Alexandra Smith, Ruby Poustie, Jessie James, Stacey Riches, Amy Vogels

Set Design:

Freya Egberts

Jeremy Baker

Set Construction and Painting:

Jeremy Baker, Tina Jenkins, Cameron Beaton, Dean Ludeman, Josh Bone, Lachlan Davis, Charlie Finnerty, Tom Grant, Thomas Gray, Zac Green, Hamish Huffadine, Nicholas Krybolder, Bailey Mason, Jim O'Sullivan, Cooper Wagner, Lachlan Bignell, Steven Bouchier, Henry Bradshaw, Anthony Glennen, Alistair Huth, Samuel Johnstone, Nathan Moran, Charlie Unwin, Alexander Walter, Georgia Watson, Zoe Barker, Charlie Brett, Mitchell Carlin, Luella Foster, Ethan Domney, Lucretia Bell, Chelsea Schmidt, Olivia Martin

Costumes:

Freya Egberts, Jan Smith, Jenny Binder

Lighting:

Tony Dupleix, Samuel Bailey, Chris Barks, Caleb Scanlon

Sound:

Total Events

Chris Barks

Properties:

Leanne Carpenter

Front of House:

Jenny Phillips and staff/students of Mercy Regional College

Make Up/Hair:

Jacqui Hester, Bethany O'Sullivan, Zoe Baxter, Ellen-Rose Lee, Jessica Quick, Jackie McKay, Shai Karney, Kasey Zentai, Chelsea Lucas, Grace Veenstra

Programme Design:

Darren Egberts, Freya Egberts, Toby McKenzie, Sue Bohm

THANK YOU

Laffs, Camperdown

St Patrick's Primary School

Cobden Technical School

Joker's Costume Hire

Camperdown Theatre Company

Corangamite Shire & Claire Dunn

Holiday Actors, Warrnambool

Loaf and Lounge Café

Peter Daffy

Western District News

Southwest Cheer & Dance Gym, Colac and Warrnambool

St Vincent de Paul Society

The staff, students and community of Mercy Regional College

- For those parents who choose to purchase the MacBook outright, the College will be mandating a minimum set of specifications including screen size, hard drive capacity and speed.
- We are in the process of seeking final clarification with respect to the provision of AppleCare (warranty) and insurance.
- Alongside this proposal, the College is investing significantly in a new IT management system that will provide more efficient and secure monitoring of all student electronic devices.

In the next two weeks, I will be writing to all parents with full details of the 2016 rollout including pricing options, specifications for the device, details on warranties and insurance as well as procedures for parents/families for whom the MacBook program may present financial challenges.

Over the next month, we will also be undertaking work on the College's Electronic Devices Acceptable User Agreement, a review of the College's backpack and the classroom furniture planned for our new and refurbished classrooms.

We will also look at a couple of information sessions where parents and families who are unfamiliar with the Apple MacBooks will be able to familiarize themselves with the device as well as seeing them used in the classroom.

I would like to thank all parents, staff and families for your contributions during the consultation period prior to this decision, I am sure that this important development will contribute significantly to the ongoing improvement of learning and teaching at Mercy Regional College.

Yours in Mercy,



DR. DARREN EGBERTS
PRINCIPAL

Digital Devices Review

Many of you would have read a booklet that was sent home to all Mercy Regional College parents outlining a proposal to phase out iPads in the classroom and replace them with Apple MacBooks over the next two – three years.

On Tuesday night, the MRC Board of Management agreed to proceed with the proposal from the start of the 2016 school year.

In brief, the program includes:

- Moving over three years (2016 – 2018) to Apple MacBooks as the digital device required by students at Mercy Regional College. Year 7 & 10 in 2016, then each Year 7 & 10 level in the subsequent two years.
- Parents may choose to 'opt-in' to the MacBook program earlier than scheduled if they wish for their child(ren) with teaching staff accommodating either device during the transition period.
- Parents will be able to purchase the MacBook outright through a retail supplier at their convenience or enter a three year lease agreement with the College. Those choosing to lease the device will have the option of purchasing the device for a small amount after this time.

Deputy Principal - Wellbeing

Mr. Kerin Glennen

Ice:

- What is Ice?
- Why is it so potent?
- What are the side effects of this drug that is out of control.

A huge spike in the availability and use of the ice, has caused great alarm to families throughout Victoria.

So what is Ice and why is it so potent:

Ice is a stimulant drug, which means it speeds up messages travelling between the brain and the body. Ice usually comes as a small chunky clear crystals that looks like "ice". It is also called Crystal Meth, shabu, crystal and classes. It is generally smoked or injected and the effects can be felt in 3 to 7 seconds. It can also be swallowed and or snorted.

There is no safe level of drug use, a report survey conducted in the second half of 2013 estimated that 2.1% of Australians aged 14 years and over used methamphetamine(ice) in the previous 12 months (*Associate Professor Peter Miller*). The effects of ice can last around 6 hours, but it might be hard to sleep for a few days after using the drug. Ice affects everyone differently and the reactions cannot be predicted.

People who regularly use ice can quickly become dependent on the drug. They may feel they need ice to go about their normal activities like working, studying and socialising, or just to get through the day.

While it is known that ice is more readily available and more people are using the substance, it's impossible to know the number of Victorians who used the drug in the last year. However the best data available says roughly 900,000 Victorians used methamphetamine in the last year. Ice is a drug that will and has already destroyed families and many lives, please if you are concerned then seek advice.

National Youth Science Forum 2016

Mrs. Chelsea Ludeman

Congratulations to Stephanie Hibburt & Caitlin Williams both girls been selected to attend the National Youth Science Forum in January 2016.

Fantastic effort from the girls. It is a 12 day program in which they will stay on-campus at the Australian National University in the ACT. They will be completing a wide range of laboratory activities, visit to industry & research sites and attend talks from leading academics just to name a few of the activities.

It is quite a credit to both them and our school that they were of the calibre to be accepted into this forum.

Enhanced Learning

Mrs. Leesa Henriksen

Australian History Competition

The Australian History Competition is prepared by the History Teachers' Association of Australia. While a primary goal has been to provide an interesting and challenging competition for students, it is also an opportunity to support teachers in the implementation of the new Australian Curriculum: History.

The questions focused on key elements of the Australian Curriculum: History – sound historical knowledge, historical skills and historical understandings.

Our students did very well, in what is considered to be a very challenging competition. Ten students in Year 8 completed the competition and ten in Year 10.

Results:

NAME		RESULT
Samuel Cole	Year 8	High Distinction
Emma Bath	Year 8	Distinction
Ailie Bateman	Year 10	Distinction
Taneisha Bentley	Year 10	Distinction
Henry Cavarsan	Year 10	Distinction
Tully Watt	Year 8	Credit
Cheyenne Beaver	Year 10	Credit
Chloe Gibson	Year 10	Credit
Bradley Lucas	Year 10	Credit
Tadgh Dwyer	Year 8	Merit
Guy Faber	Year 8	Merit
Jennifer Huffadine	Year 8	Merit
Isaac Kenna	Year 8	Merit
Nina Parker	Year 8	Merit
Sarsha Anderson	Year 10	Merit
Emily VanDonk	Year 10	Merit
Ripley Watt	Year 10	Merit
Jayden Royal	Year 8	Participation
Toby Kent	Year 8	Participation
Millie Parker	Year 10	Participation

Head of O'Keeffe Campus

Mr. James Castles

Digital Detox

To further support parents with the use of iPads at home, we would like to initiate a "Digital Detox" night.



This will involve Year 7 and 8 students leaving their iPads at school every Thursday night for the remainder of 2015. We hope that this 'break' from technology will assist both students and parents to control the amount of screen time at home.

This is an **opt-in** initiative and if you choose to participate, your son/daughter's iPads will be stored safely at school. Teachers will plan homework tasks to suit this initiative. Information has been sent home.

Grandparents and Special Friends

We are delighted to invite all Grandparents and Special Friends of our Year 7 students to a gathering which will take place Thursday 27th August at the O'Keeffe Campus of Mercy Regional College from 10.00 am to 12:00 pm.

The day will be an opportunity to celebrate our Grandparents and Special Friends and also give our Year 7 students the chance to celebrate and share their school. All visitors should gather in the O'Keeffe Campus Multipurpose Room at 10.00 am.

(See invitation on the next page)

Attention Year 8 Parents

On Monday 31st August and Tuesday 1st September, the Orientation Program will commence at the O'Keeffe Campus for students enrolled in Year 7 for 2016.

This program is a key part of ensuring that students' transition from primary to secondary school is as comfortable as possible. With increases in enrolments at Mercy, it is becoming difficult for the O'Keeffe Campus to accommodate the orientation program on a normal school day. As a result, each of the Year 8 students will be given one day off to make rooms available for the Year 6 students.

Hence I would like to advise you of the following dates:

- Monday 31st August 2015
Hampden Catholic Schools Network Day Year 8A & 8B are not required to attend school.
- Tuesday 1st September 2015
'Country Kids' Day Year 8C & 8D are not required to attend school.

Letters concerning this have been sent home with your child.

Junior School Core Value Awards

Congratulations to the following Year 7 & 8 students who received the Core Value Awards at our Assembly last term.

Community: Jack Hands

Inclusiveness: Tess Harris

Learning: Meg Pickles

Care: Caleb Scanlon

Justice and Mercy: Tadhg Dwyer

Excellence & Achievement: Imogen Faull

O'Keeffe Campus Assemblies

A big thank you to all parents, grandparents and family members for attending our O'Keeffe Campus Assemblies.

Term 3 Dates

Tuesday 25 August

* Cambodia Meeting with Clint Miller (3:30 - 5:30 PM)

Wednesday 26 August

* Instrumental Music Evening (7:00-9:00 PM)

Monday 31 August

* Country Kids Transition Day @ O'Keeffe Campus

Tuesday 1 September

* HCSN Transition Day @ O'Keeffe Campus

Wednesday 2 September

* Think Tank Day. Year 7-10

* Year 11 Street Retreat

Thursday 3 September

* Year 11 Street Retreat

* Junior Debating - Geelong

Friday 4 September

* Our Lady of Mercy Mass

Monday 7 September

* Literary Day - O'Keeffe Campus

Wednesday 9 September

* P/T/S Interviews, McAuley Campus (4:00 - 8:30PM)

Thursday 10 September

* Greater Western Basketball Year 7 & 8

Friday 11 September

* MRC Battlefields Tour departs

Monday 14 September

* Mercy Parents' Consultative Group (5:00 - 6:30 PM)

Tuesday 15 September

* MRC Board Meeting (7:30 PM)

Friday 18 September

*** Term 3 concludes**

INVITATION

To Grandparents and Special Friends Day

We are delighted to invite all Grandparents and Special Friends of our Year 7 students to a gathering which will take place at the O'Keeffe Campus

Thursday 27th August from 10:00am to 12:00pm



The day will be an opportunity to celebrate our Grandparents and Special Friends and also give our Year 7 students the chance to celebrate and share their school.

Come and join us for morning tea, performances, and classroom visits.

All visitors should gather in the O'Keeffe Campus Multipurpose Room at 10:00am.

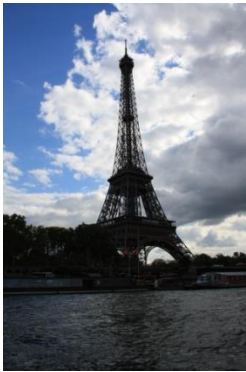
If Grandparents and Special Friends would like to attend, please reply prior to Monday 24th August by email to

reception@mercy.vic.edu.au or to Mrs. Sharyn Grinter sgrinter@mercy.vic.edu.au



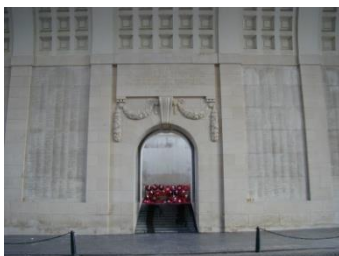
A letter will be sent home with Year 7 students.

MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE FRANCE AND BELGIUM BATTLEFIELDS TOUR 2015



The Menin Gate is a monument in the Belgian town of Ypres (Ieper). It has the names of 54,000 Commonwealth soldiers who died in the area around the town and who have no known graves. Ypres is a town surrounded by low ridges and in the First World War was the sight of three great battles; First Ypres in 1914, Second Ypres in 1915 and Third Ypres (sometimes known as Passchendaele) from July to November 1917. Third Ypres is the battle most known to Australians as all the five divisions of the AIF fought here in 1917. Ypres was a bump in the lines which projected into the German lines. This projection was known as the Salient and the great offensive was designed to break through the German lines on the surrounding high ground, create a hole in the front and then sweep up to the German held Belgian ports on the Channel coast.

The Australians were involved in the earlier Battle of Messines, which preceded the Ypres Offensive, and the major component battles of the Menin Road (20 September), Polygon Wood (26-28 September), Broodseinde (4 October) and Passchendaele (12 October). These battles resulted in enormous losses for the AIF and many of those whose graves we visit lost their lives at this time. Many are memorialised on the Menin Gate. This memorial was constructed after the war in remembrance of those who died. It is on the site of the earlier gate which had been destroyed. Two medieval stone lions which guarded the old gate were given to the Australian War Memorial and now stand at the entrance to the memorial in Canberra. Many of those from our district whose lives were lost are remembered here; locals such as William Harris from The Sisters who served in the 31st Battalion and was killed at Polygon Wood and William Pekin of the 29 Battalion and James Pekin of 22 Battalion, cousins, who were killed at Polygon Wood and Broodseinde respectively.



After the war, Winston Churchill proposed that Ypres be left in its ruined state as a memorial to the destruction of war. The local people however thought differently and returned to live in the ruins and make an attempt to pick up the fabric of their lives. In the aftermath of the war the town was rebuilt in its original style. A feature of the central market square is the medieval Cloth Hall again rebuilt after the war and an historic icon of the town. Almost all Australian troops who served at Ypres would have marched past this Hall on their way to the front.

From Ypres we will travel by Eurostar through the Chunnel to St. Pancras Station in London. On our first afternoon in London we will visit the 11th Century Tower of London and view the Crown Jewels. The next day we will visit Oxford and Windsor. At Oxford we will undertake a two hour tour of the town centre visiting buildings associated with the University and historic sites which are associated with English history and literature. We will see the spot where C. S. Lewis was inspired to create his book *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. We will also see the buildings where Tolkien worked as he wrote *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy.



At Windsor we will do a tour of the State Apartments; not as lavish as those which we will have seen at Versailles but fascinating none the less. This is a great day on our itinerary where we come into close contact with history and culture of England. Many thousands of young Australians would have visited these places while on leave in England away from the terrors of the front line.

Head of Sport

Mr. Matt Harkin

The College continues to have students representing school extremely well both in and out of school time. It's pleasing to see a number of students involved in local football/netball finals and wish all students well in their games.

Year 7 & 8 Greater Western Netball

The girls travelled to Ballarat and competed very well against some very talented opposition. Both our year seven and eight teams finished in 4th place in their sections which was a terrific effort. Well done to Berni Sinnott, Em Stephens and Bethany O'Sullivan for taking charge of the day.



Road Racing Cycling Event Bendigo

Meg Pickles, Denzel and Harrison Wickenton competed in Bendigo recently in a road racing event. The three did very well with Harrison finishing 2nd and Denzel finishing 5th in their relevant section. Unfortunately Meg had to withdraw right near the end due to being ill. All students have qualified for the state event in Ballarat later in the year.



Instrumental Concert

Mrs. Janet Backhaus – Music Coordinator

Our Instrumental Concert is only two weeks away and it is always a fabulous evening.

Our Students and their teachers will again surprise and delight us with their inspirational and uplifting performances. Everyone has been working hard all year and we are looking forward to sharing our music with you.

We hope you can make it.

Please note the date in your dairies and join us for a great night of music.

Date: Wednesday 26th August
Time: 7pm till 9.30pm

Place: Multipurpose Room
McAuley Campus

Supper: Please bring a plate of food to share

Drinks Provided

We look forward to seeing you there.

Careers Information

Mrs. Jenny Phillips

UPCOMING CAREER EVENTS

Defying the Drift – Build a great future

'Defying the Drift' is a two-part program designed to give students between the ages of 15 & 17, the opportunity to experience firsthand the diverse range of careers that are related to Agriculture.

Stage 1: Residential weekend at the tertiary agricultural institute, Marcus Oldham College.

Stage 2: Presentation to the local Rotary Club.
Please see Mrs. Phillips if you are interested.

SWTAFE Open Days

Portland - September 8th

Warrnambool - September 9th

Hamilton - September 10th

SWTAFE Tourism & Events Courses Information Sessions

Warrnambool Campus B Building Timor St – 26th August at 2pm & 6pm

RIST 2015 Information Session

The RIST Centre, 915 Mt Napier Road, Hamilton – Monday 7th September 4pm to 6pm, or 7pm to 9pm.

Deakin University Health Courses Information Sessions

Geelong Waterfront Campus

Wed 16 September – LT D2.193 (4.30pm – 6pm).

Burwood Campus

Thurs 17 September – Richard Searby Room, Burwood Corporate Centre, Building BC (4.30pm – 6pm).

This event will feature the School's organisation partners, graduates of our courses, current students, academic staff and student advisors. Visitors will have access to answers about jobs in the sector, course content and outcomes, the student experience and much more.

Those interested can find information and links to register here:

deakin.edu.au/health-social-development/short-courses/short-course-details/school-events/prospective-student-events

Are You Interested in Working With Animals?

If you are keen to find out what it takes to work in a zoo, caring for the amazing array of different animals, then come to our Zoos next school holidays. Come and discover what your working day really involves!

Keeper for a Day

Werribee Open Range Zoo: Dates: September 22nd, 24th, 28th, 30th.

Healesville Sanctuary: Dates: September 22nd, 23rd, 29th, 30th.

Vet for a Day

Healesville Sanctuary: Dates: September 23rd, 24th, 30th October 1st. More Info: Bookings: 1300 966 784
<http://www.zoo.org.au/education/careers-programs>

Work Experience at Zoos Victoria

Online applications for the 2016 Secondary School Work Experience placements will be open from Monday 24 August 2015 until close of business Friday 18 September 2015.

Only applications submitted between these dates will be accepted.

For more information about the application process:

<http://www.zoo.org.au/about-us/careers-and-culture/work-experience/secondary>

Open Day Dates – Victoria

All Dates are in August 2015

Deakin University: 1300 334 733

www.deakin.edu.au/openday

Aug 23: Melbourne

La Trobe University: 1800 135 045

<http://bit.ly/1BGrG35>

Aug 28: Albury-Wodonga

Australian Catholic University: 1300 275 228

www.acu.edu.au/99146

Aug 30: Ballarat

Federation University: 1300 225 527

<http://bit.ly/1GhNaja>

Aug 30: Mt Helen, SMB, Camp Street and Gippsland

Victoria University: 1300 842 846

www.vu.edu.au/openday

Aug 23: Footscray

Kangan Institute: 138233

www.kangan.edu.au

Aug 22: Moonee Ponds

Aug 29: Docklands

Aug 29: Richmond

Box Hill Institute: 1300 269 445

www.bhtafe.edu.au/

Aug 23: Box Hill

Chisholm Institute: 1300 244 746

www.chisholm.edu.au/

Aug 22: Dandenong

JMC Academy: 1300 410 311

www.jmcacademy.edu.au/

Aug 22: Melbourne

SAE Creative Media Institute: 03 8632 3400

www.sae.edu.au

Aug 24: Melbourne

Weekly Career News

TERM THREE

Tuesday 18 August 2015

COOL COURSES & CAREERS

Meet Katherine Padilla: Katherine is studying the Associate Degree of Fashion & Textiles Merchandising at RMIT.

What VCE subjects did you complete?

- Year 11: Mathematical Methods, English, Religion & Society, Studio Art, Business Management, Psychology.
- Year 12: Mathematical Methods, English, Further Mathematics, Business Management, Media.

What is your course like? My course has a lot of components involved to it. So far I've completed classes in business, textiles, merchandising and excel. Classes have textbook and hands-on active work. For example, going to a store and doing a window display, doing our own research and finding certain fabrics. There's a lot that has to be done outside of the classroom as well as work in class. It is definitely not boring because there's always a lot to do but it's not overwhelming either. It's very interesting.

What do you love about your course? I love the opportunities that I get from my course, like study trips (going to China this year and I've heard it's New York next year!!) and seminars that help you gain experience. The teachers let you know and if you're interested you send them an email and can get extra experience in the industry. I also love the assignments we get. They're not like anything I've encountered before.

Yes there are essays but there are a lot of assignments that are fun to do like doing a window display for an actual store, doing flat lay displays, draping, mannequin displays, product displays, and selecting a store and learning their techniques on how they merchandise their products. It's very active and quite fun to do. My favourite subjects are Fashion Merchandising and Excel.

Check out the course at this link-
<http://bit.ly/1LeUy67>

COOL COURSES & CAREERS

Meet Brodie Martin: Brodie is studying the Advanced Diploma of Game Art (Animation) at Academy of Interactive Entertainment.

What VCE subjects did you complete?

- Year 11: Literature, Physics, VET Creative Industries, Religion, Accounting, Product Design and Technology - Materials
- Year 12: Literature, Accounting, Mathematical Methods, VET Creative Industries, Physics.

What is your course like? I attend 3 times a week, twice at an early 8:30am start and once at mid-day, where we are given a run-down on the things we will be learning for the day and the week before pushing full ahead into those studies where we would be given instructions and be watched as we completed assigned tasks for learning those tools. We have only one teacher who leads us through the year, and only one group of classmates.

The course itself is pretty full on. Using Maya and Photoshop you are tasked with design objectives such as to create/model a game level and its assets, along with texturing/giving a colour to those assets and laying it out into a simple and broad level that people can walk through, and other such tasks. Along with that you will learn how to create real scale models and give life to those creations through fluid animation and rigging. It definitely is quite challenging.

What do you love about your course? Some of the things I love about the course is the experiences you get and the stuff you get to do with other classmates with the same ideas as you; you can definitely form some strong bonds and learn a lot about new techniques as you share your own ideas and knowledge amongst each other. As you hit the second year, you branch off into your respective interests, either game or film, and start to learn industry standard techniques that will allow you to create visually stunning models and designs that will help you to get into your chosen industry with little problem.

COOL COURSES & CAREERS

Meet Alyssa Barnard: Alyssa completed the Bachelor of Nursing/ Bachelor of Midwifery at Deakin University.



VCE subjects:

- **Year 11:** English, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematical Methods, Japanese, Religion.
- **Year 12:** English, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematical Methods, Japanese.

What was your course like? My course was very full on but very rewarding. The content you learn is insightful and engaging. Time management skills are necessary to ensure the requirements of the course can be met. In conjunction with classroom-based work, the course requires you to undertake clinical placement and continuity of care experiences with pregnant women and their families. A typical week for me involved 2 or 3 days a week of classes that consisted of lectures, tutorials and practical sessions.

The reason for what seems like a small workload is that I was on work placement for a lot of the time at university so we usually did the bulk of the theoretical work at the start of the semester prior to placement. I felt like I was constantly being challenged to learn something new and by the end of the course, was drawing on all aspects that I had learned along the way. Even now in my grad year I am still learning and consolidating both practical and theoretical components

What were some of the best parts of your course? The thing I loved most about my degree was that it was mostly hands-on learning! The double degree meant I had more placement than if I had just done my nursing degree alone. I was able to do placement at a number of leading facilities both in Geelong, Melbourne and Wodonga. I was also accepted into a fellowship program at Epworth Healthcare where in my third and fourth year of university, I undertook my core nursing units and placement at Epworth Healthcare in Richmond.

Fellowship programs are very rewarding. Aside from further developing and refining your knowledge and skills, they open up doors to career opportunities and connections. Lastly, I loved the connections I made and the experiences I shared with the women and families of those whom I worked with on continuity of care experiences. Being a midwife and a nurse is a very special career. I look forward to knowing I can

COOL COURSES & CAREERS

make a positive impact on someone's patient experience and sharing special moments with women and their families.

What are you doing now in your graduate position? I am a Graduate Registered Nurse and Midwife at The Northern Hospital in Melbourne. This is a 12-month contract position allowing me to rotate through postnatal ward, birth suite, special care nursery, antenatal clinic and a surgical nursing ward so that I can consolidate the skills I learnt whilst at university.

What do you enjoy about your job? As a midwife I get to be part of a very intimate and special moment in a family's life, and for that I am ever grateful. I love hearing positive feedback and gratitude from families that I was there with them on their journey. Although nursing isn't as intimate, I still go to work knowing I get to work with patients and their families to improve their clinical outcomes and their patient experience.

Lastly, I love knowing I can travel the world with my work. There are so many career opportunities for nursing and midwifery that I can't see myself getting tired of doing my job for a long time!

How did the subjects at school prepare you for your course?

- **English-** Learning to write all those university style essays! Referencing, referencing, referencing!
- **Biology-** A key subject when it comes to understanding pathophysiology, which is the foundation of clinical practice.
- **Chemistry-** It played a minor roll in my first year anatomy and physiology class.
- **Mathematical Methods-** Nurses and midwives have to do mathematics! We have drug calculations we need to perform all the time. They aren't complex like methods calculations are though, so if you were doing Further Mathematics you would be just fine.
- **Japanese-** Learning a language is a valuable resource to have in your mental toolbox. The hospital I work at now is very multicultural. I wish I knew Arabic or Turkish to help make it easier for patients and myself.

Learn about this course at the following link-
<http://bit.ly/1LyKPHi>

UPCOMING OPEN DAYS

- **22: JMC Academy, Melbourne,**
<http://bit.ly/1Hbcl3W>
- **22: Chisholm Institute, Dandenong,**
<http://bit.ly/1LeTFdS>
- **23: Box Hill Institute, Box Hill campus,**
<http://bit.ly/1LeTkHY>
- **23: Deakin University, Melbourne,**
www.deakin.edu.au/openday
- **23: Deakin College, Melbourne,**
<http://bit.ly/1IzA9Sq>
- **23: Footscray City Films,**
<http://bit.ly/1TJaRwH>
- **20, 22: Kangan Institute, Echuca (20) & Moonee Ponds (22),**
<http://bit.ly/1NaWMUw>
- **23: Victoria University, Footscray Park,**
<http://bit.ly/1JSEW6Q>
- **23: SAGE Institute of Education, Melbourne,**
www.sage.edu.au/
- **28: La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga,**
www.latrobe.edu.au/openday



VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Automotive Technical and Parts Apprenticeships: Vantage Automotive Pty Ltd invite students from all over Australia to apply for the 2016 Modern Apprenticeship Program. Successful students will undertake the apprenticeship at a dealer close to their home and be flown to Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane for block training. To find out about the program, application process, and to view a list of dealers, go to www.vantageautomotive.com

Join the La Trobe University Library! VCE and HSC students are invited to join to the La Trobe University library. You will be able to borrow items from the print collection, use the library facilities and use the library as a study space to prepare for exams. For information on how to join, go to, <http://bit.ly/1Kp3j7V>

VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Free VCE revision lectures at Victoria University (VU): If you are in Year 12 and would like assistance in preparing for your exams, you can attend free lectures at VU in the following study areas:

Maths Methods	Accounting
Chemistry	English
Psychology	Business Management
Legal Studies	

Some lectures are already full, so register your name ASAP. For information on dates and venues, go to <http://bit.ly/1fk9amq>

FREE VCE REVISION LECTURES



Would you like to study at the University of Tasmania in 2016? If you have to move interstate, you can apply for The George Alexander Foundation Relocation and Living Support Scholarship which is worth \$24000 over four years. Further, interstate students who enrol in an undergraduate law degree at the University are eligible to apply for a \$5000 relocation bursary to assist with the costs of moving. For information, go to www.utas.edu.au/scholarships

Photography competition: If you are in Year 11 or 12 and are studying the VCE, you are eligible to participate in the Deakin University Capture Photography Prize. Entries are now open and close midnight 24 August. For information and to enter, go to <http://bit.ly/1Ph3h5R>

Alternative entry pathway to Optometry at Deakin University: Deakin Optometry is committed to training work-ready optometrists to address the workforce shortage in eyecare in regional, rural and remote areas of Australia. From 2016 onwards a 'Regional and Remote Entry Scheme' will be available to applicants who completed their Year 12 studies in a school located in any non-metro area of Australia or from within the City of Greater Geelong.

The entry scheme has a separate VTAC code offering an alternative entry pathway into Deakin's Optometry program. For information go to <http://bit.ly/1Wv0k6t>



VOCATIONAL & HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS

Explore Victoria University: If you are unable to attend the Open Day at Victoria University this weekend, don't worry as you may be able to attend one or more of their Explore VU Series Information Sessions. The discipline specific sessions will provide a chance for students to find out more about the course area they are interested in. Sessions will run during September. For a list of dates and venues, go to <http://bit.ly/1TLDDsi>

Nuclear Medicine Scholarships at RMIT: The Department of Health (Victoria) is offering five scholarships of \$10,000 each for nuclear medicine students studying the Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Radiations) - Nuclear Medicine stream, at RMIT in 2016. Applications are now open and will close 21 December 2015. For information, go to <http://bit.ly/1UNPeZ1>

Interested in becoming a pilot? Students are invited to attend the RMIT Flight Training Open Day at RAAF Williams Base, Point Cook on Sunday 23 August. Experienced flight instructors will be available to talk to you about your career options in aviation. From careers flying charter flights to jumbo jets to teaching others to fly, there is a huge range of career opportunities. For information, go to <http://bit.ly/1fhzVrZ>

The UNSW Arts & Social Sciences Explorer Award: is a \$10 000 award recognising the achievements of exceptional students who are finishing up high school and starting university. The Explorer Award is given to students with outstanding academic results, and proven experience as social leaders. Applications for the Explorer Award are assessed on the following:

- Academic Merit: 90 or above ATAR
- Leadership
- Demonstrated understanding of key national social issues.

Applications are due by 30 September. For information on how to apply, go to <http://bit.ly/1hi99kM>

New Maths prerequisite approved for the University of Melbourne: Completion of the online MathsTrack course run by the University of Adelaide will satisfy the Unit 3 + 4 VCE Mathematical Methods subject which is a prerequisite for Science, Commerce and Biomedicine. The course can be taken online, will take 6 – 8 months to complete and there is a cost involved. For information go to <http://bit.ly/1DZBI5N>

UPCOMING EVENTS

August Events

- **22: Festival of Change**, Fitzroy, <http://bit.ly/1fXFNac>
- **23: RMIT Flight Training Open Day**, Point Cook, <http://bit.ly/1fhzVrZ>
- **24, 25, 26: Charles Sturt University MyDay**, Engineering, Bathurst (24), Communication & Creative Industries, Wagga Wagga (25 & 26), www.csu.edu.au/go/myday
- **27: At Monash Seminar Series**, Science, <http://bit.ly/1LbfwR>

September Events

- **3 – 21: Explore VU Series**, Victoria University, <http://bit.ly/1TLDDsi>
- **1, 3, 8, 17: At Monash Seminar Series**, Teaching (1, 3, 8) and Engineering (17), <http://bit.ly/1LbfwR>
- **6: Open Day, UNSW Art & Design**, <http://bit.ly/1HI25Zl>
- **8: Industrial Design for 2020 and Beyond**, Engineering and Design Information Evening, Deakin University, Geelong Waurn Ponds campus, sebe-events@deakin.edu.au
- **9: Architecture and Built Environment Information Evening**, Deakin University, Geelong Waurn Ponds campus, sebe-events@deakin.edu.au
- **14 – 16: The Swinburne-ConocoPhillips Science Experience**, Year 9 and 10 students, Hawthorn Campus, <http://tinyurl.com/kno5vbm>
- **16: Science at Monash University Conference**, Clayton Campus, for parents and students, <http://bit.ly/1WcqCLk>
- **22: Astronomy & Light Festival**, Scienceworks, <http://bit.ly/1MXR7kH>
- **22 & 23: VCE Help Days**, Academy of Design Australia, <http://bit.ly/1Dkjoin>
- **26: A Day in the Life of a Designer**, Billy Blue, Melbourne, <http://bit.ly/1OKht6Z>

VCAL Barn Dance Report

On behalf of the Mercy Regional College, Year 11 VCAL students, we would like to thank everyone who came to our Community Barn Dance on Friday night. A great crowd of 350 people danced the night away.

We would like to say a special thank you to all the businesses and the many people who helped us get the night up and running:

- Michael McKenzie - St. Patrick's Primary School, whom without his support and passion for community events, the night would not have been possible.
- Mick Saunders for his brilliant calling.
- Tuniversal whose music was amazing!
- Peter Daffy for meeting with us at the beginning of planning this event and spent hours setting up and packing equipment away.
- Tom Collins for stepping in at such late notice.
- Chris Barks DJ.
- Caleb Scanlon and Sam Bailey – Sound and Lighting.
- A1 Air Control.
- Cobden Country Gifts & Sweets.
- Jokers Fancy Dress.
- Woolworths.
- St Vincent De Paul.
- Laffs for assisting with ticket sales especially Lucy for helping the class with the ticketing process and an amazing front window.
- Brian Smith for helping with moving the hay bales, Dion Podger for providing the hay bales.
- Laurie Voutier for letting us use some of his stock for props.
- Sarah Pollard for helping us with set up.
- Staff - Rose Henry, Nicola Fletcher, Jan Smith, Tania Bruckner and Danae Fraser for helping out.

We especially thank our teacher Jo Williams, who inspired us to organise the "Barn Dance" and helping us out along the way. We had a Ball!

Thankyou everyone.



PORTLAND SEPT 8
WARRNAMBOOL SEPT 9
HAMILTON SEPT 10



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Open Day '15

Be inspired

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- Conservation
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- Wool

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- Computer Systems Technology

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- Counseling
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- Community Services
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- Mens Barbering
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- Make-up
- Massage
- Nail Technology

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- Hospitality
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- Carpentry & Cabinet Making
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Engineering
- Maritime

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- VCAL/VCE
- Disability Program
- Early Childhood Education & Care



Visit www.swtafe.vic.edu.au
for the full Open Day program

T01D: 3120



South West TAFE acknowledges
the support of the
Victorian Government.



Tertiary Scholarships

Four scholarships of \$7,500 per year.

Applications close at 5pm on Sunday 8 November, 2015.

The Victorian dairy industry is an exciting industry with a multitude of career opportunities, employing approximately 50,000 people in diverse jobs ranging from engineering to international trade.

Gardiner Dairy Foundation is proud to offer tertiary scholarships to four individuals residing in Victorian dairy communities, commencing studies in 2016 to pursue a career that will either directly benefit the dairy industry and/or benefit small dairy communities.

Successful applicants will be:

- Pursuing a career that will either directly benefit the dairy industry and/or benefit small dairy communities
- Commencing their first year of full-time tertiary study in 2016 (University or TAFE)
- Required to move away from home to take up their chosen course
- Australian citizens

Please Visit:

**[www.gardinerfoundation.com.au/
programs/scholarship.htm](http://www.gardinerfoundation.com.au/programs/scholarship.htm)**



NOTICES

Start collecting for your school now

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program gives Schools and Early Learning Centres around Australia the chance to earn new educational resources.

Make a difference for your local school

- Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent.*
- Stick the Woolworths Stickers onto the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet inside.
- Once it's complete, pop it into a Collection Box at your school or local store. You can download more Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets from our website woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

*excluding tobacco, liquor and gift cards.

Last year more than 14,500 schools and Early Learning Centres benefited from the program, boosting supplies in classrooms, libraries, music rooms, gymnasiums and science labs.

It's easy to earn valuable resources to help your local school, so start collecting your Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers today.

Go to woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn for more information, terms and conditions and answers to frequently asked questions.



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Come along and join us on our Lake to Lake Fun Run...All proceeds going to our local hospitals

Sunday 11th October
4km walk/run or 8km run
Registration 1pm-1:45pm
At Camperdown Golf Club
\$5 Entry fee

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