

The Dragon

16/06/2017



PH. (03) 51504800 (Administration Office)

<http://www.bairnsdalesc.vic.edu.au>

bairnsdale.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of our College

Reconciliation

Reconciliation is all about improving relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the broader Australian community. No doubt, while we have improved our acknowledgement of the damage done in the past to aboriginal people, we have a long way to go to creating inclusive, compassionate and respectful communities for all people from different cultures, genders and gender identities. Our school values focus on this respect for self and others.

Each year during Reconciliation Week, people from across Australia gather to hold events that celebrate Indigenous cultures and raise awareness about what still needs to happen to achieve reconciliation.

Our College during this week had classroom activities that broadened knowledge and understandings and confirmed beliefs about reconciliation. We held two assemblies where staff and students spoke about their thoughts in relation to Reconciliation and music and dance was also featured.

Athletics

Congratulations to all students and staff who participated in activities on this day. It was a pleasure to see students support and encourage each other to take on a physical challenge.



Reports

Staff have been in the process of writing Semester 1 reports. Once finalised, the reports will be published online via our Compass Learning Management System. Families will be notified by SMS when this occurs. We encourage all families to access the reports. If families require a hard copy of the report could they please contact Lorry Kemp at the College.

Kind regards
Ian Hall

WARGOMERRIN HUB - YEAR 7

Over the past few weeks we have seen Year 7 students participate in a range of activities within the school community. Well done to students in the way they conducted themselves during the NAPLAN tests. This time can be quite stressful for some students. It was encouraging to see the students being the best they can be for the three days that testing was conducted.

The school Cross Country was also held in the same week as NAPLAN. It was great to see the Year 7 students getting involved and encouraging each other across the finish line. Well done to those runners who came in the top 10 and were able to represent the college at the district Cross Country in Lakes Entrance. The next round will be held on Thursday and we wish all the runners good luck.

The Athletics Carnival was a huge success and, once again, it was good to see students being the best they can be on the day. The cold weather did not deter students from participating in the many events on offer and The Amazing Race. It was fantastic to see students dressing up in their house colours and getting involved in the events. Congratulations to those students who will be representing the college at the district Athletics next term.

Year 7G science

Biology got a whole lot more interesting on Thursday when Bairnsdale bait shop allowed students to observe and draw green shore crabs and then dissect whiting. Students had to show respect in both handling and observing the live animals and were fascinated as they helped each other learn the skills of dissection as part of their Science inquiry skill assessment. Mrs Cameron was impressed with their maturity as they conducted the activity on the sunny forecourt of the Nerran Science Centre.



"Squidilishous" fun for year 7G and at the end the waste became bait

WURRIN – YEARS 8 – 9

It has been a term of activity and adventure for the Wurrin Hub. The trip to Tasmania was a highlight for so many students, who experienced the joys of sea legs and the not so calm waters of Bass Strait. We visited the cooler rainforest wilderness of Mount Field National Park; spotting wallabies and many birds, and walked through the forest canopy of the Tahune Airwalk. Tasmania seems to be the lolly state of Australia, with each town presenting to us a lolly shop and bakery, where students did their shopping.

A highlight was definitely the ghost tour of Port Arthur. One group was led by a tour guide who looked remarkably like Professor Snape. He led us terrified, cold and huddled closely together around the historic convict site with countless stories of ghost encounters, often involving cool breezes, blonde-haired girls, slamming doors, and flashes of light. We all left the historic site safely, thank goodness.

The term has also brought us the annual experience of the House Athletics sports; with lots of colour, the value of participation and trying your best to outrun, out-throw, out-jump and out-cheer other Houses and Year levels. And in Year 8 Science classes students have participated in a lot of practical activities involving digestive systems and also dissections of heart and lungs. The news from the Nerran Science Centre is that there are many budding surgeons and doctors coming our way. In English classes students have been working on a unit of *Trash*, in line with the program “War on Waste” and respect for our environment; look out for waste warriors in your household.

Safe travels over the holidays and remember wherever you are and whatever you are doing respect yourself, others and the environment you are in, and be the best version of yourself you can be.

TASMANIA – 2017

What an experience it was – two groups of 80 Year 8 and 9 students plus staff over two weeks to magical Tasmania.

We started with a midday bus trip to Station Pier, Port Melbourne. Upon boarding the *Spirit of Tasmania*, students were placed into cabins of four for the overnight sailing experience across Bass Strait. The students were able to observe the lights of Melbourne as the *Spirit* left the headlands for Tasmania. Group 1 had a relatively smooth sailing experience across the strait, but Group 2 experienced a rather rough crossing.

As dawn approached, the students were keen to disembark from the *Spirit of Tasmania* for a McDonald’s breakfast in Devonport. This was followed by coach travel to Ross for lunch at a local bakery, taking in the sights along the way, including the beautiful stone bridge.

Both groups spent quality time at the Cataract Gorge before Groups A and B separated, with Group A travelling to Port Arthur for the evening, staying in the Port Arthur Caravan Park & undertaking the notorious “Ghost Tour”.

Group B had boarded their coach and were heading to Hobart via Mt Field National Park, the beautiful Russell Falls followed by accommodation at the Balmoral Motor Inn, Hobart. Evening activities included Ten Pin Bowling – which was a first for many students, who found it funny, competitive and enjoyable.

The following day, the groups had separate activities including a guided tour of Port Arthur & the Isle of the Dead for Group A. This group also took in the coastal sites of the Devil’s Kitchen, Tasman’s Arch, Tessellated Pavement and the Blow Hole. Group B travelled to the much anticipated “Tahune Air Walk” across the beautiful rainforest of Tasmania and the swing bridges. Group B then travelled to the top of Mount Wellington for the majestic views that it has to offer. Some students even encountered snow for the first time on Mount Wellington. Both groups met up again in the evening with all 80 students staying at the Balmoral Motor Inn in Hobart. Evening activities were a city sites’ tour and ice cream at Constitution Dock.

Day 4 saw the groups separate again, doing the opposite to the alternate group for the balance of the tour, ensuring that they covered as much of the sites and countryside as they could. Both groups met up at the Hobart Airport the following day for the short flight home to Melbourne and coach travel to Bairnsdale, returning to the college at approx. 10:30pm – tired and exhausted, but with happy smiling faces and many stories to tell.



MALGOBILA HUB - YEARS 10 – 12

GAT 2017

All students in Victoria, including those at Bairnsdale Secondary College who are attempting a Unit 3-4 subject combination this year, are required by the VCAA to complete the General Achievement Test or GAT. The GAT involves 15 minutes of reading time and 3 hours of writing time. Students have had opportunities at school over the last three weeks to access information sessions about the GAT and these have been accompanied by practice sessions. Good luck to all of our senior students sitting exams over the mid-year period.

2017 GRADUATION

Just an early 'save the date' notice for families for the Year 12 graduation this year. It will be held on Thursday November 23, 2017 at the Riviera Christian Centre. More information will be distributed over the following weeks.

2017 DEB BALL

Bairnsdale Secondary College presented 37 Debutantes and their partners on the evening of Saturday May 20. Boucher Hall was transformed into a "Winter Wonderland" with over 700 fairy lights.

Thank you to Rebecca Smith, Kym Diprose, Yvonne Rooney, Janine Rooks and Julie Turner for their organisation of the evening and the large number of staff who assisted on the night. Thank you to the parent helpers who helped with the decorations, Bobbie Hall and her assistant Hayley Johnson for their amazing dance teaching. The evening went off without a hitch and our students did us proud.



SUBJECT SELECTIONS

Current Year 10 students are involved in course planning for 2018 and beyond. Students have received Subject Selection handbooks and should be talking about future pathways with parents/carers at home. Pastoral teachers have many resources to assist with these decisions that students can access, as well as official subject selection forms. Deadline for course selections for 2018 Year 11 is Friday June 16, 2017. All students will be individually counselled for final sign up day on Thursday June 22.

Current Year 11 students will be issued with Edval webcodes during Week 1 of Term 3. All course selections for 2018 Year 12 must be entered via the Edval online portal by Saturday July 29. Students will be given guidance on managing this and are encouraged to seek advice from their teachers and Hub staff.

The efficient management of our 2018 planning across the school is vital for future preparation, with respect to staffing, timetabling, TAFE negotiations for VET courses, book-listing and, of course, individual student counselling.

UNIFORM

As the weather turns colder, we are noticing a greater number of students arriving in school with multiple items of clothing that are not Bairnsdale SC uniform. The school

regularly meets to discuss uniform items, and works with our suppliers to come up with a comfortable, affordable and good-looking uniform. School uniform plays an important role in ensuring all students are treated equally by peers.

We are asking for your support in ensuring that your son/daughter is in full school uniform. This means that black jeans, any style of hoodie, coloured jackets and baseball caps are NOT college uniform and should not be worn. We work hard to ensure consistency in this implementation and will be in contact when issues arise.

If you are having issues with providing or getting uniform, please speak to Belinda Neville or David Ballantyne at the Senior Hub for assistance with supplying uniform.

IMPORTANT DATES

Semester 2 Unit 2 and Unit 4 subjects begin on Monday June 19 for all students completing these units.

FREE MENINGOCOCCAL ACWY VACCINE FOR YEARS 10, 11 AND 12

In 2017, the Victorian Secondary School Vaccine Program will offer free meningococcal ACWY vaccine to students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The vaccine provides protection against four strains of meningococcal disease (ACWY) and is administered as a single dose.

Parents/guardians of Year 10, 11 and 12 students should look out for the Meningococcal ACWY Secondary School Vaccine Program consent card coming home from school with your child. You need to read the information, complete and return the card regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

Adolescents are at increased risk of meningococcal disease. Although uncommon, it can become life-threatening, very quickly. There are different strains of meningococcal bacteria known by letters of the alphabet, including meningococcal A, B, C, W and Y. In recent years, the meningococcal W strain has increased across Australia, with Victoria experiencing 11 cases to date in 2017 and 48 cases in 2016, compared to 17 cases in 2015, four in 2014 and one in 2013. It is now the predominant strain in Victoria.

The East Gippsland Shire Council immunisation service may contact you about the meningococcal ACWY vaccine program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. To speak to the Immunisation Coordinator please phone 51539500.

To learn more about meningococcal disease, the meningococcal ACWY vaccine and how you can prepare your child for vaccination, visit betterhealth.vic.gov.au or immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

WINTER UNIFORM

Just a reminder; black jeans, blue jeans, leggings, exercise tights and track suit pants do not constitute school uniform. We have spoken to many students about this, given the recent cooler weather. We will be calling home to discuss options and offering support to help your child come to school in school uniform should the need arise. Please be very mindful of what your child is wearing to school.

CAREERS NEWS

CAREERS EXPO



The Careers Expo is a collaborative event planned and presented by the BSC VCAL and Careers team and Federation Training. With months of planning completed and the sun shining, we welcomed over 500 students from schools across East Gippsland and 150 exhibitors from our local region and metropolitan Melbourne.

New for this year were interactive workshops organised by the East Gippsland Local Learning and Employment Network. Students were able to self-select to attend 15 minute workshops on areas covering STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) Robotics and Engineering, Social Enterprise and Entrepreneurship and Professional services (Accounting/Law). In addition, the Australian Defence Force held information sessions throughout the day.

The BSC VCAL *Café de VCAL* team worked tirelessly all day and were integral in the planning process, developing menus, budgeting, delivering coffee/tea, morning tea and lunch to over 150 exhibitors.

Students were vital in helping set up the Expo, meeting and greeting exhibitors and assisting them set up, distributing Expo passports and maps to students and providing assistance throughout the day.

It was a pleasure to see them working as a team, their uniforms, manner and professional approach to the day made them stand apart and showcased to everyone present the quality and potential of our students.

Year 10 students attended the Expo as part of their Pastoral program and will now use the information gathered to help them in their decision making for Later Years programs. Students were able to speak to a range of local employers and representatives from local

organisations, gaining insights into education, training and employment opportunities. This information will assist them to investigate future work experience opportunities. Our sincere thanks to all our exhibitors for generously giving their time, effort and energy to the day. We could not offer this event without their support and commitment.

YEAR 10 CAREER DISCOVERY DAY

To launch the Year 10 course and subject selection process, Pastoral Leader Kathryn Buckland, together with Careers staff, held the Year 10 Career Discovery Day on Thursday May 18th.

This busy morning saw students rotating through workshops, which included the *Keys Please* presentation, ADF information session, and subject speed dating and course information.

The interactive workshops provided students with an overview of the Later Years Programs, staff from key learning areas were involved in the subject speed dating session where students were able to seek information on subjects available at the College.

We were pleased to have staff from Federation Training present to answer questions on the VETis (Vocational Education and Training in Schools) programs. Students are continuing to work on their course and subject selection in their Pastoral classes, with final course selections due Friday June 16th.

University Open Days

What happens on an Open Day?

Open Days provide an opportunity for students and parents to look at the key aspects of Universities and TAFE institutes including courses, accommodation, libraries, sporting facilities, student services and transport options. Most importantly, it's a chance to find out what life at university would really be like. Further details will be available in Term 3.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU)	Sunday 13 Aug (Melbourne) Sunday 27 Aug (Ballarat)
BOX HILL INSTITUTE	Sunday 20 August (Lilydale) Sunday 27 August (Box Hill)
DEAKIN UNIVERSITY	Sunday 6 August (Warrnambool) Sunday 20 August (Geelong) Sunday 27 August (Melbourne)
FEDERATION UNIVERSITY	Sunday 27 August (Ballarat, Berwick and Gippsland)
HOLMESGLEN	Thursdays – book on-line
LA TROBE UNIVERSITY	Sunday 6 August (Melbourne) Sunday 27 August (Bendigo)
MELBOURNE POLYTECHNIC	Saturday 19 August (Preston)
MONASH UNIVERSITY	Saturday 5 August (Peninsula) Sunday 6 August (Caulfield and Clayton) Sunday 20 August (Parkville)

RMIT	Sunday 13 August (City and Bundoora)
SWINBURNE	Sunday 30 July (Hawthorn)
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE	Sunday 20 August (Parkville)
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY	Sunday 20 August (Footscray)

RAAF East Sale – Indigenous Youth Program

Smiles and excitement were evident when Wing Commander Kate Fox and Warrant Officer Don Taylor, along with colleague Wing Commander Sharyn Bolitho, visited the College on Thursday June 8th to meet with participants from the 2016 pilot RAAF Base East Sale Indigenous Youth Program and promote the 2017 program to interested students.

The program invites Indigenous students to spend a week on base participating in a range of leadership and team building activities, learn about roles in the RAAF and engage with local community members.

Anticipation was high as the RAAF media clip featuring our students was shown for the first time. The 2017 program will run from November 13-17.

Future Doctors

Year 11 and 12 students interested in studying medicine met with local Monash medical students on Wednesday May 3rd. Over lunch, the students had the opportunity to hear first-hand what studying medicine entails and the study pathways available to them. The ability to network and meet with academics and students was invaluable, with offers of work experience and support in preparing to sit the UMAT (Undergraduate Medical Admissions Test) made.



THE DRAGON

Families who would like to receive The Dragon via email, please email the School on: bairnsdale.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

BREAKFAST PROGRAM 2017

The Breakfast Program for all staff and students is continuing to run.

Come to W16 from 8.00am each morning. We offer cereal, raisin toast, yoghurt, or fruit and a hot drink to start the day.

All welcome, whether you simply don't have time in the morning to have breakfast, are an early bus traveller or you just like to chat with friends and share breakfast together. Our breakfast volunteers from Clifton Waters Village also love to meet everyone who comes for breakfast.

Student Wellbeing Team

ARE YOU LOGGING INTO COMPASS?

Don't forget that you can give ongoing support to your child by monitoring their progress using COMPASS.

Just log into:

<https://bairnsdalesc.vic.idf.com.au/login.aspx> using the log in information that you have received from the school. Alternatively, you can now download the Compass App onto your phone or tablet for easy access via the Google Play Store or iTunes App Store.

If you are a parent of a Year 7 student or a student new to the school, you will receive log in details for Compass in the next few weeks.

You can use the Compass portal to:

- Read progress reports. These are produced every three to four weeks.
- Read semester reports
- Monitor your child's attendance data
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences for your child
- View information about upcoming excursions
- Update your registered email and mobile phone number details (used for SMS alerts)
- Book for Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
- View the school calendar for important dates/events
- Access news items that may be posted on a daily basis.
- Obtain an electronic copy of The Dragon (published on Newsfeed)

If you have difficulty logging in, or you have misplaced your log-in details, please contact the College for assistance.

info@eaa.unsw.edu.au or contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010

ICAS TESTING

Bairnsdale Secondary College will be supervising tests on the following dates.

English	Tuesday August 1 (Entries close June 22)
Maths	Tuesday August 15 (Entries close June 22)

Entry forms are available to students now and can be found at the Hubs, Learning Resource Centre and the General Office. Forms must be signed by a parent and returned to school prior to the subject closing date. Any enquiries please contact Lorry Kemp at the College.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



PAYNESVILLE COAST GUARD
NEW BOAT FUNDRAISER

Trivia Night

Saturday, July 8 at 7pm
 at the Bairnsdale RSL

MC for the night – Greg Allen, Gippsland's 1242

- \$20 per head • Tables of 8-10
- Door Prizes • Silent Auction • Raffle
- Light Supper • Drinks at Bar Prices

Supported by many generous local businesses from East Gippsland and Melbourne that have kindly donated food and prizes.

Tickets on Sale at Bairnsdale RSL
 or call Len Ganinon on 0429 228 572

JAMES YEATES PRINTING
 (03) 5152 4141



PARENT FORUM

Wednesday 26 July
4:30 – 5:30 pm

Nano Nagle Learning Centre, Nagle College

Youth Mental Health

“Food for Thought” – Understanding Food Messages

DID YOU KNOW

- In Australia there is an estimated 1 million people with an eating disorder
- Eating disorders account for the highest reason for mental health death
- Eating Disorders can be as common as other higher priority health issues such as Type 1 Diabetes or asthma
- Your son or daughter may be hiding this from you

This Forum will look at:

- > Risk Factors – Early Warning Signs
- > How to Respond
- > Resourcing and Support – Within the school and outside of the school

Presenter: Jo Aquila, Student Counsellor at Nagle College

Registrations to attend can be made by contacting Nagle College on 5152 6122 or nagle@nagle.vic.edu.au

JUNE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
26	27	28	29	30 Last Day Term 2 2.13pm Finish		

JULY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
17 First Day Term 3	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Japanese Sister School (Yaei High School) Visit Until August 7						