

College News



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 3 has certainly been an action packed term at GEC. You will read about the many wonderful opportunities our students, staff and community have been involved in this term and I am grateful for everyone's contribution. Some of the highlights include; GEC Goes to Rio Trivia Night, Music Festival, numerous extra-curricular and sporting activities, hosting students from Japan, Science Week, Book Week, National Skills Week...and the list goes on.

Year 7 2017

It was wonderful to officially welcome our 2017 Year 7 families to Glen Eira College at last week's welcome afternoon tea. Parents had the opportunity to meet staff who will be involved in the transition of their child into GEC, begin networking with other parents, learn about our wonderful Instrumental Music Program and our very successful French Immersion program and new Japanese Immersion program.

NAPLAN Results

We are again delighted by the progress of our students in literacy and numeracy as demonstrated through the NAPLAN results. Our students achieved above the state in learning growth from Years 7-9 in reading, writing, spelling and numeracy.

Each Year 7 and 9 English and Maths teacher is in the process of analysing their class results. Also, the English and Maths Key Learning Areas are analysing the cohort and trend data to further refine teaching practice and programs. Year level coordinators also use this information to support our students. If any Year 7 or 9 parents have questions in regards their child's NAPLAN results please contact the relevant teacher or year level coordinator.

Alex Mathieson – Principal for a Day

Every year we participate in the Principal for a Day program coordinated by ACER. The mission of Principal for a Day is to increase and strengthen relationships, based on knowledge and understanding, between the private sector and education.

I am delighted to have welcomed Alex Mathieson – Programs Director at Oxfam as Principal for a Day this year.

Alex spent time in Humanities classes and the Year 12 Health and Human Development class. Year 12 HHD students study Oxfam as part of their curriculum. Alex also accompanied me on a school tour for prospective students and had lunch with the SRC.

Capital Works

The Honourable James Merlino MP, Deputy Premier and Minister

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Minister for Education James Merlino turning the first sod



Crepes for Change



Sean and Sierra at the Synchrotron

This newsletter is emailed home to all families twice per term. If you have any items of interest to the college community or want to advertise your business, please contact either Penny Marks or Gabrielle Darvell (Business Manager) on 9571 7838.

for Education visited Glen Eira College for the official turning of the first sod last week. He was accompanied by Steve Dimopoulos MP, Member for Oakleigh.

After the formalities, the Minister spent time with the students who had recently participated in the Robotics Competition and with the Year 10 Photography class.

I am delighted that we have engaged 2Construct as our builders for the capital works. As soon as we have a firm timeline in place I will inform you of the plans. We will begin with the construction of the new gym, new music room and the two new food technology rooms.

Finally

I wish all students and their families all the best for the holidays. To the Year 12 students - I trust you will make the most of the opportunity to complete the practice exams to the best of your ability. This will inform you as to where your energy and time needs to be spent in the final weeks of study.

Our enthusiastic staff will again be competing in the annual Teachers' Games in Shepparton and I wish them all the best – and bring back a medal!

*Sheereen Kindler
Principal*

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Xuno Update

Recently, at School Council, there was a report updating council on the continued implementation of Xuno as a communication platform at the school. This year a number of new implementation phases have occurred including roll marking, course counselling notes, and work requirements. Teachers have had professional development support in placing work requirements on Xuno. These can be accessed on the Xuno portal. Most work requirements are not given an S or an N until towards the end of semester; however parents should be able to see the work requirement topic displayed in the portal.

Chromebook Program

We are very pleased with the teaching and learning benefits associated with students accessing the Google Education suite through the Chromebook. Staff and students have provided positive feedback about their use in class and we will be rolling the program out at Year 8 and Year 9 next year. There will be an information session for parents of Year 8 and 9 2017 students at 7.15pm on Wednesday 14th September (straight after parent teacher interviews).

Information on our website

You will find on our website the results of the parent survey in response to our review of the semester reporting process. Also on the website is our recently developed communication policy which I encourage you to view. This has been developed in consultation with staff and parents.

*Nick Hamer-Smith
Assistant Principal*

GEC SCHOOL UNIFORM

The Uniform Sub-Committee have been working hard to develop an initial set of recommendations to take to School Council. The process has been a complex one due to the wide range of views expressed in survey results and other correspondence. The survey results are still on the website should you wish to view them.

The Sub-Committee arrived at four recommendations for implementation next year, however it is apparent that there is further work to be done so we will continue to meet to review the policy and discuss issues raised by our school community.

The Sub-Committee presented the following four recommendations to School Council on Monday 22nd August. School Council approved these recommendations with implementation to occur from 2017, with the exception of recommendation 4 which will commence from term 4, 2016.

1. **Plain black socks to be the only colour worn by all students.**
2. **All students can select items from the approved uniform list. Headings for 'girls' and 'boys' and 'summer' and 'winter' uniform items in the current policy to be removed.**
3. **Apart from a watch, the only jewellery permitted are two pairs of earrings (surgical sleepers or studs) in the ears only. No other facial piercings permitted.**
4. **School approved jackets can be worn with or without the school jumper.**

We continue to welcome feedback on the uniform. Please contact me if you would like to have further input into the review process by emailing ithica2013@hotmail.com.au

*Rhonda Brooks
School Council President*

JUNIOR SCHOOL REPORT

We are nearing the end of the term and parent/teacher interviews are this week. Ensure you book online and speak to your child's teachers. You should review the progress report as a family and identify areas for improvement. It's timely to review the goals you made and see if you are on track.

Congratulations to Sierra, Erin, Nick and Sean, our nominated students, who were successfully accepted into the Summit Leadership Camp. We look forward to hearing about their experiences on the Limitless Camp held in the September school holidays.

Continue to keep the lines of communication open and don't hesitate to contact us.

*Keira McLean
Junior School Leader*

YEAR 7 HIGHLIGHTS

The Year 7 students had their interschool sport day on Friday 26th August. Students participated in futsal, table tennis and basketball.

On 1st August, the Year 7 girls and boys badminton teams represented the college at the SMR finals. It was such an exciting day with many close games.



Year 7 Girls' Badminton



Year 7 Boys' Badminton

Both teams trained for weeks in the lead up to the finals which ultimately paid off as they both reached the grand final. Jacky, Ashwanth, Roche, Sanjay and Francis all played exceptionally well and were runners up. The girls; Devanshi, Georgia, Cherry, Sam, Ysabelle and Ishwarya had a very close game in the grand final. In the end it came down to points and the girls were the SMR Champions by 15 points. They will play in the State Finals on 13th September and we wish them all the best.

Well, it has been a busy term for all Year 7 students. As the Olympics were in Rio we had two events of 'Going for Gold' at GEC involving Year 7 students. Our first event was a puzzle solving activity which was won by 7A students who did tremendously well to solve the challenging work puzzles. The other 'Going for Gold' event was the best presented and organised planner for term 3. This award went to:

7D - Alannah de Jesus

7E - Emma Laird and Jacky Ye

7F - Amy-Lee Sobotka and Laylah Foong

Congratulations to these students for their excellent organisational skills.

Other activities the Year 7 students have been involved in are the GEC Music Festival, supporting and meeting the visiting students from Japan and actively competing in our recent interschool sports.

As we are coming to the end of the term work requirements need to be finished. We would like to remind students, parents and guardians that Homework Help is a terrific opportunity for our students if they need extra help with any work. There are tutors available for students to utilise (and they are free). It is held every Tuesday and Wednesday in the library from 3:15pm - 4:30pm.

We are looking forward to our final term of 2016 and are sure it is going to be just as busy and rewarding. We hope you all have a restful and relaxing term break.

*Elizabeth Allan and Keira McLean
Year 7 Coordinators*

YEAR 8 HIGHLIGHTS

Some outstanding sporting achievements to mention lately came from both the Year 8 boys' and girls' futsal at Albert Park Lake. Futsal is fast becoming a Glen Eira speciality. Zoe Markopoulos outplayed everyone. We lost count of her goals after about 35. She was aided by a keen and fit team and they ended the day unbeaten.

The boys' teams won in both A and B. There was a lot of highly skilled play, high levels of fitness and some thuggery from other schools, but the team did the school proud with

their sporting behaviour and they were humble in victory.

Well done to the girls' table tennis team who won the Beachside competition. The team will now represent the college at the SMR finals in October.

The Year 8 girls' badminton team had a fantastic day at the SMR finals on Monday 1st August. They defeated the first school 5-1 and went on to play the second school losing 4-2. Congratulations Harini, Luise, Emilie, Sharon and Pearl.

*Shaun Reynolds
Year 8 Coordinator*



Year 8 Girls' Badminton



Jett at Futsal



Year 8 Boys' Futsal



Year 8 Girls' Futsal

YEAR 9 HIGHLIGHTS

Term 3 has been a busy time for Year 9. In Week 3, 28 students braved the cold at Rubicon Camp. It was an exciting time with many students seeing snow for the first time at Mt Baw Baw. There were plenty of stacks and falls as the students tried out the sometimes difficult skill of cross-country skiing. As well as the skiing, the students also had the opportunity to face many fears whether it was up high in the high ropes course or down underground caving through river boulders. Thanks to Mr Golding and Miss Power who accompanied the students and myself on the camp.

In the Year 9 Program, students were recently briefed on the Work Experience program for Year 10. It is a good idea for students to start early when searching for a placement for next year. If you have any questions about this process, please contact Maria Anbar, our Careers and Pathways Coordinator.

*Fiona Finnegan
Year 9 Coordinator*

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are reminded that the College has a designated telephone line for notification of student absence – 9571 4178.



JUNIOR SCHOOL CAPTAINS' REPORT

This term the Year 9 Program has been all about planning for the future. We have been learning how to write cover letters and resumes in preparation for the mock interviews which were held on the 30th and 31st of August. Everyone looked absolutely outstanding, and from all the feedback we've heard thoroughly enjoyed the day. It was a great learning experience and we feel a lot more confident about going for real job interviews.

On Tuesday 16th August all Year 9 girls attended the Go Girls, Go For IT excursion held at Deakin University. The event included a range of activities such as learning about computer patterns and programs, as well as a huge trade show in the main building. Both the workshops and talks were engaging and inspiring. We would like to thank all the teachers who attended the excursion including Miss McLean, Miss Finnegan and Emily Stansfield-Smith. The experience was amazing and we hope to do something like this in the future.

We hope everyone has had an academically successful term. Well done to all the interschool sport teams and good luck to those who are participating in the State School Spectacular event!

*Harry MacLeod-Smith, Sierra Danon and Sean Kelly
Junior School Captains*



Year 9 Go Girls, Go For IT Excursion

WORD MANIA WINNERS!

Over the past month students in Year 7 English and Year 9 Team competed with students from 2,000 schools around Australia in the 2016 Word Mania Competition. Our students demonstrated excellent word building skills and made Glen Eira College a regional winner!

Year 7 came second and Year 9 came first in their respective age groups in our local area. Their efforts have won the school some fun and educational literacy games including "Scrabble Classic" and "Articulate." These educational games will soon be added to the Library's collection for everyone to enjoy. Congratulations to all the students who took part.

*Michael Kelty
Literacy Coordinator*

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

We have been busy in the Senior School meeting with students to assist them with their course counselling and subject selections for 2017. It is great to see how motivated students are to get into their chosen pathways and choose subjects that will support them in achieving their goals.

As we draw near to the end of term 3, the Year 12s are finalising their coursework and starting to prepare for their exams. Over the holidays the Year 12s will complete their practice exams for all their subjects. These will assess both Unit 3 and Unit 4 coursework and timing of exams will be reflective of the end of year VCAA exams. The examination timetable has been emailed to students and parents via Xuno and also made available via the GEC Hub. If anybody has any questions regarding these practice exams please don't hesitate to contact the college.

*Haroula Christodoulou
Senior School Leader*

YEAR 10 NEWS

I would like to begin this report by thanking all the Year 10 course counsellors for the time and effort they have put in with the Year 10 students and their subject selections for Year 11, 2017. Furthermore, thank you to all the Year 10 students for being so mature in their approach and taking the time to seriously consider subjects and possible career paths. Whilst this has been just the beginning of the process, please feel free to contact any of the counsellors for further clarification. More information on subjects will be forthcoming.

The camp to Anglesea is fast approaching and many students have brought their forms to the general office. If you are intending for your son or daughter to go on camp and need forms or more information, please contact me - it promises to be a terrific time.

*Lou Tsarpalas
Year 10 Coordinator*

YEAR 11 NEWS

All Year 11 students participated in the Fit2Drive program which aims to raise awareness of road safety, fitting really, when so many students are currently applying for their learner's licence. The Fit2Drive team, along with members of the MFB and Victoria Police presented students with scenarios where poor choices were made by some drivers and passengers alike, and how these choices devastated families and communities. Programs like these are invaluable for our young people, who at times think they are infallible and untouchable by such tragedy. I strongly urge all Year 11 students to employ the strategies they developed during the program and not only empower themselves but spread the word to other young people and family members with the choices and responsibilities of logical thinking, so we all remain safe on the roads and work towards lowering our road toll in our state. One student had this to say about the program:

"Looking at a real driving scenario that involved people our age really opened our eyes. I think we will all be a lot more



cautious when driving after doing the Fit2Drive program. It made us think about our options as passengers in a car and helped us come up with some good alternatives to getting into a car when we don't feel safe.

It was great to have people our own age presenting the material. I think the Fit2Drive program would benefit the university students who teach it too."

Suzannah Stone, Year 11

I am sure that all parents would prefer to receive a call from their children no matter how late in the night it comes, to pick up their children rather than have their children make hasty decisions with others at the wheel.

Mary Maniatis
Year 11 Coordinator



Year 11 Fit2Drive Program

YEAR 12 NEWS

On Monday 22nd August, we held a VTAC Information Evening which covered all VTAC matters. The school received positive feedback regarding the session and I would like to thank all parents and students who attended. Following on from that evening, Ms Anbar has been working with each student to help them with all VTAC procedures but ultimately each student needs to take on the responsibility of completing all the online applications.

Each student has been given a copy of the Navigator 2016 which they are required to read and ensure that they understand the rules and regulations of the examinations. Students will also be given a copy of their individual examination timetables and this document should be kept in a safe place.

Our students continue to be exposed to various opportunities that enhance their learning. On Monday 25th July the Year 12 Biology class visited the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC) where they practiced DNA manipulation methods.

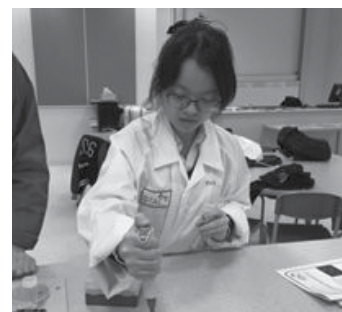
Students used various tools and techniques used for DNA manipulation in scientific research and gained skills in using research grade biotechnology to complete various experiments. They also gained skills in techniques used in molecular biology and microbiology. Students used state of the art models to explore the bonding interactions of DNA and features that determine DNA structure. The experiments conducted allowed students to transform a bacterial culture to make it resistant to an antibiotic and made it glow green under fluorescent light!

Students thoroughly enjoyed the day, as they also had the opportunity to visit Melbourne University and experience "uni-life".

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 9571 7838 regarding any queries that you have regarding your son/daughter.

I wish all of the year 12 students a safe and productive end of term break.

Laura Brancatella
Year 12 Coordinator



Year 12 Biology Excursion

LANGUAGES CORNER

Crepes for Change at Glen Eira College

This term we had the pleasure of welcoming Crepes for Change to the school. It is a non-profit social enterprise run by young people who devote their spare time to eliminating youth homelessness.

The one of a kind crepe van attracted students all day! It was an enriching experience for students who learnt about social enterprises that help people in need while enjoying delicious crepes!

Year 11 and Year 12 Finalists

Congratulations to Jordan Yeramian and Lucie Eysseric who will both represent Glen Eira College at the Alliance Francaise on the 3rd and 4th September for the final rounds of the Berthe Mouchette Oral and Written competitions!

Loveena Narayanan
Head of Languages

Ze French Club

Ze French Club is ze perfect opportunity for all students to share their passion for French culture by playing French games, singing French songs and eating delicious French food.

It's every Friday at lunchtime in Room 11.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are reminded that the College has a designated telephone line for notification of student absence – 9571 4178.



Give your name to Monsieur Chamontin and you'll even get a membership card!
A bientôt!

*Cedric Chamontin
French Teacher*



Ze French Club

OGAKI VISIT

From Thursday 18th to Tuesday 21st August, GEC was fortunate to host a group of 9 'genki' (cheerful) students and 3 staff members from Ogaki, Japan. Ogaki is a relatively small town with a population of 163,364. It is the most centrally located city in Japan and is about a 30 minute drive north from Nagoya. Ogaki shares a sister city relationship with Glen Eira Council and so we were offered the opportunity to host this group throughout their 5 day stay in Melbourne. The Ogaki students ranged in ages from 11 to 14 years and for all of them it was their first time abroad. They were allocated to GEC families and staff who had kindly opened up their homes to host them.

On the Thursday after school, the host families met at the Glen Eira Town Hall to await the arrival of their visitors. We waited eagerly and once the students entered the room we all tried to catch a glimpse of our exchange student. The mayor welcomed them to Glen Eira which was followed by the Ogaki delegation performing three musical performances. Afterwards, the Ogaki Principal provided us with an excellent speech in English.

We all enjoyed the students' performances and chatted together whilst having some afternoon tea. I was impressed by the confidence and maturity of these young students and their willingness to communicate in English with their host families. I was also proud of our students as they all put in a lot of effort to ensure their Japanese visitor felt welcomed to their family. The Japanese students then went home with their host families to experience their first night in Australia.

On Friday, the students attended school for the whole day. In period 1, we held an assembly to welcome them to our school. The assembly was run by students from 7F and 8F who introduced each act in Japanese and English. The assembly opened with the Dedication to Country led by Abigail Staples. This was then followed by the National Anthems of both countries, the Japanese sang by students in 7F and 8F and the Australian sang by Erin Herr. Next we had

speeches from both principals, Sheereen Kindler and Sakai Toshinori. We then had a series of delightful performances by the choir, the violin ensemble and an amusing Melbourne presentation led by Gabrielle, Alexandra and Jenifer from 8F. The Ogaki students then performed two recorder pieces and sang a song called "I believe" which showcased their wonderful harmonies. I would like to congratulate all students who stepped up and represented the school so beautifully at the assembly.

In period 2, the Ogaki students joined Year 8B's Geography class to learn about Indigenous Australians with Ms Cordingley. From periods 3 to 6, the Ogaki students attended their host sister's / brother's regular classes.

Over the weekend the GEC host families ensured their visitors had a wonderful homestay experience by taking them to many different places; BBQs in the park, the zoo, Healesville Sanctuary, farms, the beach, the bush, surfing lessons, the city and shopping.

On Monday, the Ogaki students spent the day in the city led by a representative from the Glen Eira Council. On Tuesday morning, they departed early from school to head to the airport. They then flew to Sydney where they spent the rest of their day sightseeing around the city, before flying back to Japan on the Wednesday.

I would like to sincerely thank the GEC families and staff who hosted our Ogaki visitors and for everyone who helped to make the visitors feel welcome during their stay. In particular, I would like to thank Ms Cordingley and 8B for their highly interactive and engaging lesson. This lesson was a real highlight of their school visit. Programs like this cannot operate without the support of the school community. Hosting a student from another country is a wonderful opportunity for the whole school, one that I hope will be remembered for a long time.

*Emma Nishikubo
Japanese teacher*

ROBOTICS CLUB

Seven teams from the Glen Eira College Robotics Club competed in the RoboCup Junior Victorian State Championships at The University of Melbourne on Tuesday 16th August. It was the largest competition ever held in Victoria with over 600 students representing 44 schools and clubs across the state. Our teams competed in the Rescue division, but also had opportunities to watch the RoboCup Junior Dance and Soccer competitions. They performed well under highly competitive conditions. Out of 50 teams in the novice division, Lachie (7D) and his team of Dhugal (7C), Alex (7A) and Nash (7F), just missed out on a top three finish and entry into the medal rounds. Christopher (8C) finished 7th out of 30 teams in the secondary division. All the teams represented the school well. It was a very busy day; all had fun and gained much from the experience. A special thank you to Peter Bales for helping out on the day and to the Parents' Association for contributing to the purchase of the robotics equipment. It made it possible to involve many more students this year in the club. Until next year!

*David Ebert
Robotics Teacher*



Lachie testing his robot on the practice course



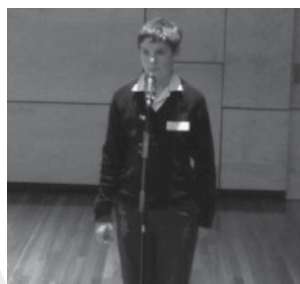
Tahlia and Ariella making some adjustments to their robot



Christopher setting his robot to run on the course



Hyuk waiting for the signal to start his robot



Ben Matthews



Harini, Ben, Alistair, Julian, Luisa and Ashleigh



Gifted & Talented Student Conference

ENHANCEMENT AND ENRICHMENT

On Wednesday 10th August Peter Bales and I had the pleasure of taking six wonderful students to the Gifted and Talented Student Conference run by Academy Conferences at Siena College in Camberwell.

Julian Khong (7B), Luisa David (7C), Ben Matthews (7C), Harini Guddanti (8B), Alistair McCutcheon (8B) and Ashleigh Harris (9A), attended the conference and were all a shining example of the wonderfully gifted and talented students we have here at Glen Eira College.

We had a very early start meeting at school at 7:20am! I can't believe how dedicated these students were, not even one complaint about the early start. During the day the students sat in on a lecture about philosophical thought and the ethical difference between being fair and being equitable. They participated in large group discussions, resolving questions based on the same topic. Alistair and Ben were very vocal and eloquently presented ideas on behalf of their individual group's opinions. The students also witnessed a debate of the topic 'Animals should have rights'. When given the opportunity to put forward their opinion of the topic, Ben represented us, being the first to stand behind the microphone and deliver his opinion to the forum.

I would like to thank each of the students who came with us on the day. It was a wonderful day and I trust that the students enjoyed it as much as I did.

Emily Brown

Enhancement & Enrichment Coordinator

SCIENCE WEEK

This year, National Science Week ran from the 13th to the 21st August. To celebrate all Year 7 and 8 students participated in the STEMania! incursion on Monday 8th August in the Performing Arts Centre. This involved a two man show where the presenters incorporated ideas from the students into sketches about science and how it is important in everyday life. Ariel Goldman played a wonderful robot, F.R.I.E.N.D., in one of the sketches and had all the students in stitches!

During Science Week we had a team program running in which we 'Managed Our Monday' by looking at what Science Week is and what it celebrates, focused on 'Wellbeing Wednesday' by looking at the science behind meditation and mindfulness, and for 'Fun Friday' we played a word scramble game all about the emerging sciences. Students were also introduced (via the internet) to Atlas, a robot with artificial intelligence. He had many students wondering and thinking about the rise of Terminator! (I don't think it's that dire at this point.)

On Thursday 18th August Ms Allan and Mr Dalton hosted Going for Gold at GEC to celebrate the week. Students were given the opportunity to see if they could beat Usain Bolt in a sprint race. Congratulations to Charley Layton who won the competition, but unfortunately couldn't beat the Bolt!

Thanks to all the staff and students who participated and helped to make Science Week a success.

Emily Brown

Science Coordinator



Going For Gold at GEC



Emily Brown and Charley Layton

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Glen Eira debating club has gone from strength to strength this term! Our competitive inter-school teams performed well this season, competing admirably against schools with well-established programs. Our Year 10 team competed against some teachers in a practice debate, which was an invaluable exercise and has set some ideas in motion for a Staff vs. Students debate in term 4! Their improvement and depth of arguments should be congratulated, and I look forward to expanding our teams and training in 2017.

During the first half of term we had six students from our Junior School compete in the D.A.V Junior Public Speaking Competition. Erin Herr, Ashleigh Harris, Jennifer Foster, Isabella McFarland, Emma Johnson and Aimee Harris participated in an all-day workshop at Mentone Girls' Grammar, performing one prepared speech and two impromptu speeches. They represented our college beautifully, narrowly missing out on advancing through to the final stages. Well done girls!

Currently several of our Year 7 and 8 students are competing in the Junior Secondary Program at McKinnon Secondary College, which involves a debate and then a workshop afterwards, to improve on their skills. This introduction to debating is a great way to learn how to debate in a supportive and non-threatening environment – I encourage any students keen to try debating to take this up in 2017.

*Georgina Peters
English Teacher*



D.A.V. Junior Public Speaking Competition



Teachers and Year 10 practice debate

CELEBRATING BOOK WEEK @ GEC LIBRARY



STUDENTS BUILD HOVERCRAFT

Taylor Abbott, Eli Douek and Ross McNaughton are Year 11 students who in Year 10 started building a hovercraft. Between their studies and in their own time they applied the knowledge that they gained through participation in Materials Technology over 4 years. With high enthusiasm and constant trial and error they managed to complete this challenging project. This shows how our students can rise to the challenge when given the opportunity and guidance.

*Mr Tserkezidis
Materials Technology Teacher*



Taylor and Eli on their Hovercraft



HUMANITIES NEWS

Philosophy, Science and Media

After achieving a Highly Commended for their entry in the national Sleek Geek Eureka Prize Competition hosted by the University of Sydney, Sean Kelly and Sierra Danon were invited to an official Australian Synchrotron tour by David Southwick and other Members of Parliament.

Last year, the GEC team also achieved a Highly Commended for their film submission on Synaesthesia and this year, Sean and Sierra produced a professional animated film about 'Life in the Milky Way.' Both film submissions explored two very different aspects of science in a fun and informative way and both have been formally recognised amongst the best student work in Australia.

Sean and Sierra reported:

"David Southwick, our local Member of Parliament, gave us the opportunity to go on a tour of the Synchrotron with other visiting Members of Parliament: Ms McLeish, Mr Riordan, Mr Watt, Ms Britnell, Ms Lovell and Mr Burgess. We were so grateful for the opportunity to attend the venue as it is such a unique place and the only one in Australia. It expanded our scientific knowledge as the Australian Synchrotron is one of sixty in the world and it conducts the best scientific research nationwide. The technology used at the venue allows scientists to see at micro, nano and atomic scales. Since 2007, when the first operations commenced, the Synchrotron has conducted over 3000 different investigations for academic, medical, industry and government organisations. On our visit we learned some in-depth information on current projects.

The most interesting project being conducted at the Synchrotron at the moment is the Cancer Therapeutic which is looking into a new cure for cancer. This involves two closely related proteins; Bcl-2 and Bcl-xL which are being tested for their effect on infected cells. While the Bcl-xL protein does actually treat cancer, it kills all the white blood cells in the process, resulting in the organism dying. While the research is ongoing, they are in final stages of testing and could possibly be close to an amazing discovery!

We would like to thank Ms Cordingley for organising the occasion, Emma Liepa and Michael James for giving us an outstanding tour of the venue, and David Southwick for involving us in an opportunity that links our school work with a real life experience that shows we can progress the future of Australia through science. We thoroughly enjoyed the experience and are looking into possibly making a video on the Synchrotron for next year's competition."



Sean and Sierra with Members of Parliament at the Synchrotron

We congratulate Sean and Sierra on their impressive achievement. As recognition for their achievements in the competition, the Australian Synchrotron has offered them the opportunity to bring 20 students from GEC to attend a tour and information session very soon. If any students are highly engaged and interested in science, please watch the Student Bulletin for the application process to attend the Synchrotron with Sean and Sierra. We look forward to next year's competition that links film, philosophy and science and we hope that Sean and Sierra's achievements will inspire students to take their passions beyond the classroom.

Our Japanese visitors enjoying a Humanities' classroom experience

Year 8B students welcomed 9 Japanese students and their hosts along with the visiting Japanese teachers and their Principal into the Humanities classroom. Year 8B students practiced painting message stones using traditional symbols ready to teach our visitors, knowing that they would have little English communication skills. This proved to be quite an interesting experience in communicating without language.

GEC students prepared a spread of Australian food, such as vegemite toast, fairy bread, lamingtons, Tim Tams and milk Milo as the universal language of hospitality. The food allowed a wonderful learning environment as students shared food and taught the visiting students and teachers how to paint a message on a stone to take back to Japan.

After some careful instruction, all our visitors were able to complete a lovely memento of an Australian classroom experience. It was interesting to see the Japanese influence blend with the style of Aboriginal symbols in the artwork.

I made personal and individual material gift bags for the students using iconic Australian fabric on one side and a naughts and crosses backing in black and white. This enabled students to play 'Tic, Tac, Toe' (naughts and crosses) with coloured stones that reflected Australia's rich red soil and yellow sand.

The visiting students were able to inspect and handle Indigenous artefacts that had been ordered from the Melbourne Museum which included a koala skin ball, a traditional boomerang, clapping sticks, red soil, original axe heads and sharpening stones. The lesson was a snapshot of an Australian Indigenous cultural experience that highlighted historical and geographical references through art and artefacts. After some serious concentration on painting that included lots of fun and food, the Japanese students enjoyed a chocolate Caramello Koala.

During the interactive lesson, Harini Guddanti and Ariella Hain painted a boomerang with traditional symbols using

Have you recently changed, or are about to change, address or home, mobile or work phone number?

Please remember to ring the College on 9571 7838 to keep us informed.



earthy colours. All the 8B students signed the back of the boomerang and it was later presented to the Japanese teachers as a symbolic invitation to return to our school in the future. The Japanese teachers presented us with a range of origami that was beautifully constructed by their students in Japan. The bringing together of the two cultures was a wonderful experience for everyone.

*Deborah Cordingley
Head of Humanities*

WELLBEING NEWS

Holidays are a great opportunity for students to relax and recharge their batteries and it is important that they actually take the time to do just that! A healthy diet, adequate sleep and exercise all contribute to a young person's capacity to succeed at school. Senior school students will be using some of their holiday time to prepare for end of year exams but must also ensure they take the time to care for their wellbeing.

Sleep is critical to maintaining good mental health and functioning effectively at school. It is recommended that teenagers need 8 to 10 hours sleep a night. Inadequate sleep can pose significant risks for the mental health and wellbeing of young people.

Headspace has a fact sheet on sleep that provides an evidence based summary of the potential impacts of inadequate sleep.

<https://www.headspace.org.au/young-people/sleep-fact-sheet/>

"Good sleep habits have been shown to improve mood, concentration and performance at school or work. They may also help control overeating and help prevent obesity. Lack of sleep is linked to symptoms of depression such as feeling down, hopeless, irritable, having thoughts of suicide, and using alcohol or other drugs.

Research suggests that for every hour of sleep you miss at night, there is a 38% increase in the chance of feeling sad and hopeless."

So these holidays take the time to sleep, work on those sleep patterns and routines, it is a wonderful way to take care of your health and wellbeing.

Combine good sleep with a minimum of an hour of vigorous physical activity a day, a healthy diet and activities that make you happy – the ingredients for a delicious holiday! Enjoy.

*Jenny Sanchez
Wellbeing Leader*

GLEN EIRA COLLEGE PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS SEPTEMBER 2016

Trivia Night - GEC Goes To Rio

The Trivia Night on Saturday 6th August was a huge success and lots of fun. 160 parents, staff, former students and friends gathered together in the GEC gym, which was fabulously transformed for our night in Rio. It was terrific to see everyone get creative with their costumes, looking like they really could have been in Rio for the Olympics.

We enjoyed an exciting night with our trivia competition and other games, entertainment from our fabulous MCs Tori

Mulligan and Lou Tsarpalas, auctions, raffle and dancing. The dessert buffet provided by Sensational Catering Glen Huntly was a delight for the senses, including a huge mud cake stunningly decorated for our Rio theme.

Huge thanks to all those who contributed to the success of the night, including:

- Melbourne Table and Chair Hire, Guss family for donating the hire of tables, chairs, etc.
- Lou and Tori for donating their time as MCs and auctioneers
- Peter Wenborn for a beautifully handmade timber bed wenbornwood.com.au
- Qantas and Roy Armstrong for donating a session in a flight simulator
- The many other businesses and GEC families who donated auction items and prizes

We raised over \$12,000 - our best result ever. This will help GEC to buy new musical instruments and improve the school grounds for the students.

GECPA Trivia Night Committee 2016 - Juliet Brianton, Ruth Gordon, Joanne McCutcheon, Lisa Minichiello, Sharon Unger, Leesa Needham, Rosie Tonkin, Nathalie Galliot and Cathy McNaughton.

GEC Parents Association – join us!

All GEC parents and guardians are welcome to attend our meetings – a great chance to meet some school families and help the school. Our meetings are friendly and informal, and your level of involvement is up to you. If you are interested in coming to any of our meetings, please send us an email to gecpa@gec.vic.edu.au so we can send you the address.

Transport issues in Glen Eira – Forum Monday 12 September

Glen Eira Council has just established a new advisory committee to look at transport issues in Glen Eira and to better plan for cycling and walking and public transport. Catherine McNaughton (Ross Year 11B's mum) has been appointed to the committee and invites you to contact her (ph 0412 119 807) or Glen Eira Council if you want to raise any transport issues; or better still come to the forum....

Transport Forum – Monday 12th September 7pm - 9pm Glen Eira Town Hall Caulfield Cup Room RSVP 9524 3333 mail@gleneira.vic.gov.au – An opportunity for locals to discuss and highlight transport issues in Glen Eira, particularly safe and active travel for kids to school and safety in streets near GEC.

Cathy McNaughton and Juliet Brianton





Trivia Night – GEC Goes to Rio

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KEY DATES TERM 4 2016

WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER – YEAR 7 – 10 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS 1:30PM – 7:15PM (STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 12:40PM)
FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER – LAST DAY TERM 3 (STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 1:30PM)
WEDNESDAY 21ST – FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER – YEAR 12 PRACTICE EXAMS
MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER – FIRST DAY TERM 4
THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER – YEAR 12 CELEBRATION DAY
SATURDAY 22ND- SUNDAY 23RD OCTOBER – RELAY FOR LIFE
WEDNESDAY 26TH OCTOBER – FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER – UNIT 3/4 WRITTEN EXAMS
TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER – MELBOURNE CUP PUBLIC HOLIDAY (SCHOOL CLOSED)
MONDAY 14TH – THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER – YEAR 9B, 10 & 11 EXAMS
THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER – YEAR 12 VALEDICTORY
MONDAY 21ST – WEDNESDAY 23RD NOVEMBER – YEAR 10 & 11 CAMP
THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER – REPORT WRITING DAY (STUDENT FREE)
MONDAY 28TH NOVEMBER – FRIDAY 2ND DECEMBER – YEAR 11 & 12 2017 TRANSITION
MONDAY 28TH NOVEMBER – TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER – YEAR 8 – 10 2017 TRANSITION
TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER – YEAR 7 2017 ORIENTATION DAY
WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER – PRESENTATION NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 14TH – FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER – END OF YEAR PROGRAM
TUESDAY 20TH DECEMBER – END OF TERM 4

Caulfield Little Athletics invites all boys and girls aged between 5-15 years to join our 2016-2017 Season!



Registration /Information Day:
Saturday 10 September
from 10am to 2pm

Location:
Duncan McKinnon Reserve
Pavilion, Community Room
Cnr North & Murrumbena Rd,
Murrumbena

Welcome to Caulfield Day – Come and Try:
Saturday 1 October
from 8:30am to 11am

More information:
caulfieldlac.com.au
Come & Try - call Mary on 0425 719 384
Registrations - email Donna at registrar@caulfieldlittleathletics.org.au

All new members who join before 6 October will go into the draw to WIN a CLAC sports bag and uniform!
Register by Thursday 6 October. Drawn at the track on Saturday 8 October.



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Have you recently changed, or are about to change, address or home, mobile or work phone number?
Please remember to ring the College on 9571 7838 to keep us informed.



Welcoming Visitors

from
**Ogaki,
Japan**

