

College News



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 1 has certainly been action packed – our students, staff and parents have really involved themselves in a broad range of activities at the college.

- The swimming sports in February were a huge success yet again. We had an unprecedented number of heats as so many students wanted to 'have a go'.
- Cultural Diversity Week, Harmony Day and Francophonie week saw students and staff wearing national dress or orange – the colour of Harmony Day, making crepes, playing petanque and Chinese games, learning a Hebrew or Bollywood dance, listening to one of our talented parents playing the oud and eating delicious French cakes.
- Our fantastic singers entertained the community at the Glen Huntly Village Festival - Alizee Morin, Anna Rowsell, Anais Keenan, Berenice Mickelborough, Hannah Schauder, Sasha Missell, Maayan Ashkar, Suzannah Stone, Erin Herr, Eloise Wenborn (sang a duet with Lachlan), Emili Sahnovski, Anishadeep Kaur. For several it was their first time on stage using a microphone. I am very grateful to Robyn Keane and Lachlan Mack who coached the students and were with them on the Saturday. Our Year 8 and 10 art students also had their work on display.
- The Year 7 and Year 8 camps were highlights of the year so far with just about every student attending.
- Many of our students participated in 'Singfest' – a DEECD music program hosted this year at GEC.
- The interschool sports days saw students representing the college in a range of team sports with the Intermediate Boys Volleyball winning the Division competition.
- The Year 7 Family Supper Evening was a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet informally with our staff.
- International Women's Day Activities, including our students attending the Bentleigh Moorabbin Central Rotary Club breakfast.
- Student leaders attended an evening at Parliament House and were given an insight into how government works.
- Funky Hair Day activities raised over \$1000 for the Leukaemia Foundation.
- Pi day celebrations showcased our students' maths abilities.
- Attending the Darwin Defenders Day service was a humbling experience for our student leaders.

continue page 2



Funky Hair Day



Year 8 camp



Crepe flipping for Francophonie Week

This newsletter is posted home to all families regularly. If you have any items of interest to the college community or want to advertise your business, please contact either Penny Marks or Debbie Panakos (Business Manager) on 9571 7838.

- Sharing a bite to eat at the Multicultural Supper organised by our Parents and Friends Association - indicative of the strong relationships in our community.

These are just some of the highlights from term 1. As you can see there are many opportunities to get involved at GEC.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

I was again overwhelmed and delighted to have so many parents nominate for school council. I am pleased to announce that the successful parents are Ruth Gordon, Julie Stout and Michael Polonsky. They join Rhonda Brooks, Peter Walker, Claire Mauer, Meaghan Leith and Mike Seager who are half way through their two year term as parent or community representatives. I am delighted also to have Keira McLean and Emily Brown as our new staff representatives joining Tori Mulligan and Jenny Sanchez. Michael Frajman has rejoined council as a community member.

I thank all the retiring councillors for their superb work over the past year(s): Julie Staunton who has been a wonderful school council president over the past few years, Peter Brown, Caroline Levine and Pota Dunkley.

We are always looking for ways to involve our parents in our community. Please contact me if you have ideas of how you would like to be involved. Our Parents and Friends group is an excellent way to meet other families and I encourage you to join. I am looking to hear from:

- any parents or grandparents with excellent language skills and time who are interested in being literacy volunteers in our classrooms. If you are, please contact the school and we will run some training sessions early in term 2.
- relatives of a student who are permanent Telstra Group employees to apply for a Telstra Kids Fund grant (www.kidsfund.telstrafoundation.com) of up to \$1,200 on our behalf. There are three funding rounds per year. Requests for musical equipment, educational resources, sport and recreation equipment and building upgrades have been among the grants given by Telstra's Kids Fund. Schools cannot apply directly – an employee must apply on behalf of the school.

Last year the aunt of one of our students applied for funding for cricket equipment for our very keen cricketers. We will do all the preparation for the application – we just need you to submit it. So if anyone in your family works for Telstra please contact me as we would love to apply for funding for our students.

UNIFORM SUPPLIER

As you are aware we have had to go through a rigorous process of selecting a new uniform supplier. Feedback from parents indicated that the quality of the product, location of the store and cost were the important factors. I am delighted to announce that we have engaged Bob Stewart Uniforms as our new supplier. We will not be making changes to the current uniform with the exception of the sports uniform which we were already in the process of changing.

GROUNDINGS

We are continuing to make improvements to our grounds. I hope you have seen the new shade sail and outdoor seating adjacent to the playing field. These were purchased with the funds raised by our wonderful Parents and Friends Association!

STAFFING

Due to family issues, Mirela Magyar has had to tender her resignation. I am very grateful to Marlene Samaan and Lyn Campbell who stepped in to take over Mirela's classes on very short notice.

TERM 1 REPORTS

All students will have received their interim reports and hopefully you were able to attend parent teacher interviews in the last week of term. Please discuss the progress reports with your child to assist them with planning for the next term.

I wish you all a wonderful term break and look forward to a successful term 2.

Sheereen Kindler
Principal

BIKE SAFETY

While most of our students ride safely and responsibly to and from school, there have been some isolated cases of students not wearing helmets and riding recklessly through railway crossings. Please reinforce with your child the importance of safety when riding a bicycle.

Mr Hamer-Smith
Assistant Principal

ESTD **BOB STEWART** 1925

Our family serving you since 1925

SCHOOL UNIFORM SPECIALISTS

OPENING SOON.....

Bob Stewart is a third generation family business that specialises in the supply and retail of school uniforms. Our main store is situated at 207 High Street, Kew, a large modern retail store with the uniform department on the first floor. We also operate a smaller uniform shop in Mentone. Bob Stewart continues to expand by offering great service and high quality products at competitive prices.

Bob Stewart is pleased to announce the opening of a new retail store at **150 Waverley Rd, Malvern East**. All Glen Eira uniform items will soon be available from this new location. We consider it a privilege to be given the opportunity to serve the community of Glen Eira College, and we look forward to welcoming you into our store.

Francis Stewart
DIRECTOR

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.



GIRLS AT GEC: SHORT ON HAIR, BUT BIG ON HEART.

Nursery rhymes tell us that good girls are made of 'sugar and spice and all things nice'. Miley Cyrus' new short haircut is touted as resembling Jim Carrey's character in 'Dumb and Dumber'. Glamour Magazine (UK) claim Anne Hathaway's long hairdo in 2010 was the 'most perfect hairdo we have ever, ever seen'. However when she cropped her hair for her role in Les Miserables it was reported by other media sources that she looked like her 'gay brother'. A recent online article, by a writer of the pseudonym Tuthmosis, declared 'Girls With Short Hair Are Damaged'. A counter-article to the aforementioned, by Laurie Penny, detailed 'Why patriarchy fears the scissors: for women, short hair is a political statement.' All I can tell you is that young women at Glen Eira College are made of more than 'sugar and spice and all things nice'. They are made of bravery, altruism and exceptional leadership. They also do not cut their hair because they are damaged, nor are they trying to make a political statement. They just have an exceptional moral purpose, placing a higher value on promoting the awareness of cancer and fundraising to help find a cure rather than promoting their own materialistic looks.

Last week Jayde Glass, Katherine Aspinall and Simone Giulieri took the brave step to shave their heads to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation. They have followed in the footsteps of Ruth Boneh and Nina Colon, who pioneered the now annual tradition of young women at Glen Eira College who take the bold step of shaving their heads for this excellent cause.

I sat down with all of these young women last week to discuss their motivation to be brave and shave.

Ruth and Nina, with their friend Zalie Rowe, decided that they would all cut their hair short for the 'Be Brave and Shave' Leukemia Foundation day in 2013. At the start, Ruth felt like backing out of the deal, saying to Nina 'if we do this, we have to do it and shave our heads' thinking that Nina would say no. But when Nina surprised Ruth and said yes, Ruth originally said 'You have to be joking!' Ruth then thought about it, accepted her own ultimatum, and was encouraged that she had made right decision.

Ruth and Nina had no idea that shaving their heads would inspire those around them. Jayde, motivated by Ruth and Nina's bravery last year, decided that not only would she shave her head, she would try and enter as many charity events this year as she could. Katherine felt that Ruth and Nina were 'doing a really good thing' and when it came to the time to register for this year's 'Be Brave and Shave' event she thought it would be a good idea to be involved this year as well. A friend's family member who has been affected by cancer also moved her to shave her head.

Simone knows quite a few people who have either been affected by cancer or who have lost their lives to cancer, so this was a main motivating factor for her. She also wanted to support both Jayde and Katherine, who she describes as amazing young women willing to shave their heads for a good cause.

Between these five brave young women, over \$3000 (this figure is still growing at the time the article was written) has been raised for the Leukemia Foundation.

Their charity and benevolence has not been without some adversity. Nina said that in spite of support from her family, friends and broader college community, a comment like 'your hair looks weird' made her feel 'really crap about herself'. Ruth said that once you get past the fact that people will stare at you because you look different, you know you have done a good thing and that short hair is in fact 'very comfortable'. Nina, who has actively chosen to keep her hair short ever since shaving it last year, explains that she doesn't need to have the mindset that girls 'are supposed to be pretty with long hair'. She is more than just a hairstyle.

The Oxford online dictionary defines the term 'hero' as 'a person who is admired for their courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities'. It also defines the term 'bravery' as 'courageous behaviour or character'. Hero and bravery are loosely used terms these days. They are words that are thrown around and used by all and sundry to describe well-paid and well-trained sportsmen, who generally do nothing more than kick a pigskin around a park.

I find these young women heroic and brave and I am immensely proud of them. They have taken a noble and courageous choice to shave their heads to support others who do not have the choice. They have shown altruism to raise funds for the wellbeing of others ahead of the contemporary view that young women must look pretty and have long hair. Each of these young women has inspired others around them. Already there is talk amongst other young leaders who are planning to stand up and 'be brave and shave' so as to continue this tradition next year. And it has nothing to do with being damaged or making a political statement.

*Tori Mulligan
Assistant Principal*



Katherine, Jayde, Ruth, Nina and Simone

STUDENT ABSENCES

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

WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE - FUNKY HAIR THURSDAY

Glen Eira College has embraced the Leukaemia Foundations World's Greatest Shave charity event. This event is organised to raise funds:

- To help the Leukaemia Foundation provide practical support to people with leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood disorders.
- To boost research into better treatments and hopefully cures for blood cancers.

Jayde Glass (Year 11 student) and Mrs Simone Giulieri (Staff member) decided to shave their hair to support this cause. The rest of the Glen Eira College community also participated in the event by spraying their hair different colours for our Funky Hair Thursday. This wonderful participation enabled the Glen Eira College students, staff members and supporters to raise the outstanding figure of \$1300.00. The Glen Eira College Student Representative Council (SRC) would like to thank everyone for their wonderful generosity towards this cause.

*Elizabeth Allan
SRC Coordinator*

JUNIOR SCHOOL REPORT

Welcome to the end of a rather busy Term 1!

The GEC Swimming Carnival saw many talented swimmers and divers compete for a spot at the next level. Congratulations to all students who went to the Division Swimming and represented the college. In particular, we would like to congratulate Dmytro Kuzmowych, Alexander Ide and Caity James who all received a 1st place in their events and are now off to the Southern Zone finals.

The Junior School SRC representatives worked hard to hairspray many heads and raise money for the World's Greatest Shave. Barney Miller went to Chadstone on the weekend to shave his head for the cause and has raised \$750 to date – Well done Barney!

CONGRATULATIONS TO JADE WOLFSON

Jade Wolfson, Year 8, recently competed in the Taekwondo State Championships for Patterns.

Jade won a gold medal despite having an injury – an absolutely wonderful achievement. She will now represent Victoria in the Nationals and in the future may be selected to represent Australia internationally.

We are very proud of Jade and wish her all the very best.



Jade Wolfson

Year 8 Camp Kangarooie was yet again a huge hit with students challenging themselves in some very different activities! And the school production, Hairspray, has just announced its cast. This is just a brief overview of a jam packed Term 1.

On a final note, the Term 1 Interim Reports are a good opportunity for parents and students to sit down together and read through the reports. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Junior School Team



Year 8 Camp



Year 8 Camp

YEAR 7 REPORT

This term we have had many activities to keep us busy – Camp Marysville, World's Greatest Shave, House Swimming Carnival, French Film Excursion, Harmony Day celebrations and the list goes on.

Let's start with the Annual GEC Swimming Carnival. The day was a huge success with many Year 7 students dressing



up and competing in the swimming races, volleyball and novelty events to support their House. Ayal Blitman, Georgia Goodson, Zoe Van Cuylenburg, Ben Becker and Will Stamp all represented the college at the Beachside Division competition! They all performed well donning several ribbons. Congratulations to each of the students – the early morning swims payed off!

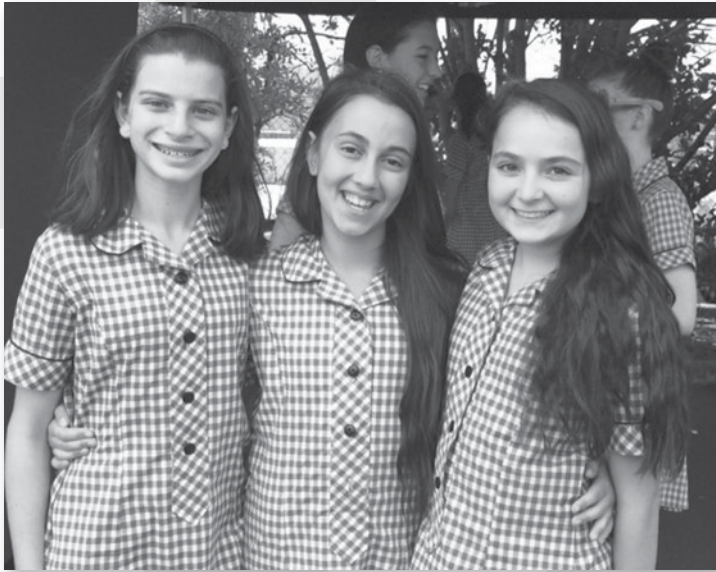
There was a vast array of hair colours in the Year 7 corridor on Thursday 13th March thanks to the World's Greatest Shave. Well done to Sean Kelly, the 7B SRC representative, who assisted in the organisation of a fantastic day.

The Glen Huntly Festival, held on Saturday 15th March, was a huge success. It was a terrific morning listening to our GEC students sing their hearts out. Sasha Missell, Emili Sahnovski and Erin Herr all performed exceptionally well and engaged the audience. I look forward to seeing many more of our talented Year 7 students on the stage in the future.

On a final note, Term 2 is fast approaching and the key to success is the following:

Get Organised, Get Focused and Get Involved.

*Keira McLean
Year 7 Coordinator*



Year 7 Singers at the Glen Huntly Festival

YEAR 8 REPORT

The year 8 students spent three days away at camp Kangarooie from the 17th to the 19th March. We had a wonderful time marching over sand-dunes, building sand cities (not just castles), surviving in the bush, canoeing, avoiding obstacles (getting very muddy), and learning the ways of the farm.

We may have set off with 102 students, but by the end we adopted Jedi the dog and Declan's lama-fur cat. We proved to be a very 'talented' bunch! With 'Eric the Red' winning our esteemed competition. Our teachers are 'cooler

than we thought!' with Ms McIvor putting on a Fire-Twirling performance which awed us all!

Michael Armstrong and Nishika Hewett won teachers awards for 'being a great team player' and 'giving everything a red hot go'.

I am extremely proud of the year 8 group who came away with us. The camp was a great success and I hope that all the students had as much fun as we did!

A huge thank you to Mrs Keane, Mr Givogue, Mr D Mulligan, Ms McIvor, Ms Allen, Ms Dawson, Mr Wickham and Ms Barram for making it all possible.

*Emily Brown
Year 8 Coordinator*

YEAR 9 REPORT

It has been a very smooth start for Year 9 and this is due to the hard work and dedication of our teachers and the positive attitude displayed by the Year 9 students.

The Year 9 Programme has been a huge success as the students have been willing to make the most of their time whilst out of school. Currently the students are working on a St Kilda capacity matrix, a tourist brochure and a questionnaire based on the public's perception of St Kilda. The students' behaviour has been exemplary every time we have gone out. A very big thank you goes out to the following staff members who are part of the Year 9 Programme – Ms Papaioannou, Ms Deal, Ms Brancatella and Mr Brown.

The Year 9 camp has been booked for the following dates 10-12 November, at Phillip Island. You should have received a letter and permission form.

As always, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Lou Tsarpalas
Year 9 Coordinator*

MOTHER'S DAY CLASSIC 2014

Each year the Glen Eira College Mother's Day Classic Team gets bigger and bigger with students, staff, family and friends running or walking the 4 or 8kms to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research.

If you're interested in joining the Glen Eira College Pink Panthers team in 2014 visit the website and register. When selecting a team choose: Glen Eira College Pink Panthers. Permission forms are available at the General office, Junior school and Senior school offices.

Mother's Day Classic Website:

<http://www.mothersdayclassic.com.au/event/vic/melbourne>

Looking forward to seeing many of you wearing pink and supporting a great cause!

Keira McLean

STUDENT ABSENCES

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



TERM 1 INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

It has been a busy term for interschool sports at GEC. We have had all year levels compete in the district level.

It has been pleasing to note that for each year level we compete in virtually all the sports that are on offer. There have even been occasions where we have added 2 teams for a number of sports, such as tennis and volleyball. Well done GEC students for the high participation numbers for term 1 interschool sports.

Massive congratulations go out to the intermediate boys' volleyball team who won their division competition. There were many teams from all the schools in our Beachside division, so it was a terrific effort to get the win. The next stage for the boys is the Southern Metropolitan District final which will be played early next term. Good luck lads!

GEC's swimming carnival was a huge success, with the weather being 10/10 and plenty of students competing for their houses made the day heaps of fun. It's hard for me to say well done to Gold house for winning the swimming carnival, as my beloved Blue house was unable to get the chocolates. Gold house adds to their domination of the sports carnivals. A huge thank you goes out to the staff who helped with running the carnival. Without their help the day would not be the same.

The Beachside Division Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday 11th of March. GEC had 34 students representing the school, which they did with great effort. Congratulations to all students who swam for GEC on the day. We had 3 students who won their event on the day which was a fantastic effort. These students are Dmytro Kuzmovych (under 13 boys freestyle), Alexander Ide (under 14 boys diving) and Caitlyn James (under 14 girls diving). These students will compete on Thursday 27th March in the Southern Metropolitan District Swimming carnival. Good luck to all 3 students.

*Adam Golding
Sports Coordinator*



**Division
Swimming
Squad**

**Max, Alex, Keira
Mclean, Caitlyn and
Ruth**



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

Glen Eira College was fortunate to be invited by Kevin Davidson, director of the Bentleigh Moorabbin Central Rotary Club, to attend the International Women's Day Breakfast at the Hemisphere Centre. It was an early start to the day as we had to be at the Centre at 6:45am. We are lucky our parents drove us that early!

When we arrived we walked into a large room full of tables and a stage up the front. We collected our name tags and set off to find our table and start the morning.

There were three guest speakers who were all so inspirational to listen to and who shared their emotions through their stories. One of the speakers Beth Wilson left school at 15 but has gone on to hold roles such as Victoria's Health Services Commissioner and receive numerous awards for her services to health. Another speaker, Luz Restrepo, founded SisterWorks, an organisation that helps asylum seeker, refugee and migrant women to develop social and occupational skills to achieve financial independence and settle in Australia. The third speaker, Chantelle Baxter, co-founded OneGirl, an organisation dedicated to giving girls in Sierra Leone access to education.

Once the speeches were over we were able to have our breakfast and socialise with the speakers and others in the room.

We would like to thank the Bentleigh Moorabbin Central Rotary Club for providing us with this great opportunity.

Tasha Friede and Ashleigh Williams-Strong Year 10



Tasha Friede and Ashleigh Williams - Strong at the breakfast

GIRLS' TALK CLUB

Mission: To help young women develop healthy friendships and build positive self-esteem & confidence.

Once again the "Girls' Talk Club" was a success. This year we were lucky enough to have four Year 10 girls volunteering to act as mentors for the fifteen Year 7 girls participating in the program. During the workshops several topics were



discussed. Some of the topics covered were; "What makes a good friend?", "How to say NO!", "What is a healthy relationship?". The most popular topic was "Love the skin you're in". This workshop was also supported by the BODY SHOP as they came out to Glen Eira College and delivered a special workshop on skin care and makeup with the philosophy, "LESS IS BEST!!".

A very big thank you to the Year 10 Mentors for their commitment and wonderful work Ashleigh Williams-strong, Tasha Friede, Jessica Venier and Hanna Unger

*Christalia Formoso & Inge Cichello
(Adolescent Health Nurse) (School Psychologist)*

LIBRARY NEWS

Although we are just under half-way through the Year 7 Information Literacy Program, the benefits of such a program are evident. Using a variety of search techniques, students can now confidently use the library management system to locate resources as well as determine the loan status of items. Recognizing the differences between the various Collections (Fiction, Non-Fiction and Reference) has resulted in a thorough understanding of the principles of fiction and the means by which fiction books are shelved. Whilst the Non-Fiction and Reference Collections pose somewhat more of a challenge to library users, students are now familiar with the basic principles of the Dewey Decimal Classification system. Over the next few weeks we will look at:

- Bibliographies/Reference Lists
- Websites and how to evaluate them
- Study skills (Time Management, Note Taking, Plagiarism ...)
- Electronic Databases
- Edustar

Earlier in the term, Year 10 English students and VCE Art students attended a workshop given by graphic novelist, cartoonist and educator – Sarah Howell. Sarah is a founding member of the Squishfish Comic Art Studio (Brunswick) and teaches cartooning at Box Hill Community Centre as well as at her studio in Brunswick. The purpose of the talk was to broaden English students storytelling concepts to include visual communication and to prepare Art students for their upcoming SAC.

Thank you to our Library Monitors for the wonderful job they do and welcome to Jennifer and Jasmine (Year 7 students) who are the latest editions to the Library Team. Thank you also to the very enthusiastic Comic Clubbers, our Book Clubbers and Chess Clubbers – all of whom make the Library a very special place to be!

*Carmel Eyre
College Librarian*

KEY DATES: TERM 2 2014

MONDAY 21ST APRIL – EASTER MONDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
TUESDAY 22ND APRIL - FIRST DAY OF TERM 2
FRIDAY 25TH APRIL – ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
TUESDAY 29TH APRIL – FRENCH OPEN DAY 9:15AM – 10:30AM
WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL – OPEN DAY 7:00PM PRESENTATION
MONDAY 5TH MAY - IMMUNISATIONS YEAR 7 & YEAR 9 BOYS
THURSDAY 8TH MAY – GEC ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
THURSDAY 8TH MAY - ACE INFORMATION NIGHT 7:00PM – 8:00PM
SUNDAY 11TH MAY – MOTHERS' DAY CLASSIC
MONDAY 12TH MAY – SENIOR WINTER ROUND ROBIN
SATURDAY 17TH MAY – ACE TEST
MONDAY 26TH MAY - SMR CROSS COUNTRY
FRIDAY 30TH MAY – INTERMEDIATE WINTER ROUND ROBIN
MONDAY 9TH JUNE – QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
WEDNESDAY 11TH JUNE – MUSIC SOIREE 7:00PM – 9:30PM
THURSDAY 12TH JUNE – YEAR 8 WINTER ROUND ROBIN
WEDNESDAY 18TH JUNE – YEAR 7 WINTER ROUND ROBIN
MONDAY 23RD – FRIDAY 27TH JUNE – YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE
FRIDAY 27TH JUNE – LAST DAY OF TERM 2

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Student Assessed Coursework and Assessment Tasks

Most senior school students have by now undertaken their first assessment tasks across all subjects. You may often hear your child referring to certain 'SACs' that they have scheduled. SAC is short for 'School Assessed Coursework'. These tasks are done mainly during class time and assessed by the college. Teachers give students specific criteria sheets and a checklist of items to review for each SAC that is to be completed so that students can fully prepare. It is important that students are present when SACs are set, as their date is fixed. In the event that a student is ill and absent from school on the day of the scheduled SAC, they MUST have a medical certificate covering that day, otherwise they will not be allowed to reschedule the assessment task.

Generally, we have been very impressed by the manner in which students are approaching and undertaking their assessment tasks. You can support your child preparing for SACs in the following ways;

- Provide a well-lit, dedicated space for study.
- Discuss the content material – it may be that by answering your questions they come to understand the material more deeply themselves.



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.



- Ask to see the criteria sheet for the task.
- Engage with your child regarding the use of the Student Planner and the manner it may be used to create a study plan in order to support SAC preparation.
- Discuss time spent on the internet on social media / games sites etc. so that the student has a balance between homework, home-study and relaxation.
- Discuss the balance between school commitments and any part time job. (More than 1-2 sessions of work a week is too much for a VCE student).
- Set realistic expectations. Students who perceive themselves to be under pressure to perform beyond their own capabilities will often not reach their potential.
- Encourage students to stop studying at least 20 minutes before they try to sleep.
- Focus on achievements keep family conversation positive.
- Encourage a sense of humour.
- Sweat the big stuff...

PROPER PREPARATION PREVENTS POOR PERFORMANCE

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL AND PUNCTUALITY

Glen Eira College believes that avoidable student absences contribute significantly to lack of student success, poor motivation and lack of engagement. Senior School students are required to attend 90% of classes in order to successfully complete their year. Any attendance below 90% will be monitored closely. This includes absences which are approved through the school such as attendance at sporting events or student leadership training. If students are unable to attend school for a legitimate reason, such as illness, we ask that parents 'approve' the absence through calling the school absence line on 9571 4178. Parents can leave a message on our absence hotline to provide a "note" and reason if the absence is approved, or let the school know that they believe their child should be at school. If a student is absent on the day of an assessment task they must provide a medical certificate for that day. Students who have a number of 'unapproved' absences will be required to account for these and parents will be contacted. Any 'unapproved' absences at the conclusion of the year will affect the ability of the Senior School to approve the satisfactory completion of the year and therefore compromise subject selection.

We ask for your support in managing punctuality, in particular in the morning. Students need to be in class for team meetings at 8:50am. This means they need to ensure that they have allowed enough time to go to their locker first and arrange their books for Periods 1 and 2. It is recommended that students arrive by 8:40am to allow for this. Parent support is a key part and by arriving on time students will maximise their learning and minimise the need to rush. Thank you in anticipation.

Please contact the Senior School Office if you have any enquiries about attendance.

*Ms Elizabeth Tasiopoulos
Senior School Leader*

BE PRESENT, PUNTUAL and with POSITIVE PARTICIPATION.

YEAR 12 CHEMISTRY

On Wednesday 5th March the year 12 Chemistry class made their way to the Victorian Space Science Centre (VSSEC) at Strathmore Secondary College. It was a HUGE day! We left at 7:30am and returned to school at 5pm! I was extremely impressed at their attitude and in-depth inquiry of the practical demonstrations and experiments conducted. When I asked one of the instructors how they were going she replied, 'Very well, they are very smart'. Students were given the opportunity to operate the Atomic Absorption Spectrometer, UV-Visible Spectrometer and the Gas-Liquid Chromatograph - including the calibration and preparation of standard solutions and real-life samples.

Emily Brown

attendance
MATTERS



Dhananjay and Prerana on the Chemistry Excursion



YEAR 12 NEWS

Term one has come to an end and it has been a very busy time for our year 12 students. Some of the activities that they have attended are senior school sport, swimming carnival, State library, Darwin Defenders Service, State Parliament and the chemistry excursion. These activities not only support our students with their academic achievements but also with their overall wellbeing and are therefore an integral part of their education. Next term students will visit The Age VCE and Careers Expo and TIS event amongst other excursions that have been organised by subject teachers.

The year 12 collegiate jackets arrived, just in time for the school photos and some cooler weather. The students were very excited to receive them and began to wear them straight away. They look fantastic.

As we enter a really busy time especially with the completion of SACs, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that there are several people who can support your child if the need arises. I strongly encourage you to contact me at the college if you have any concerns.

*Mrs Laura Brancatella
Year 12 Coordinator*

YEAR 11 NEWS

Term 1 has come to a close very quickly and the interim reports have been distributed. These reports are important to give both students and parents valuable insight into the students' academic progress. The rigors of VCE study are quite different to that of Year 10, with higher expectations and a faster paced course delivery. It is essential that all students evaluate their results in order to identify their strengths and develop strategies to improve their areas of weakness. On the whole, this year's cohort has progressed well with some very solid results. I cannot stress enough how important it is that all students develop and utilise a realistic home study program to maintain and improve on these results.

Parent/Teacher interviews allowed parents the opportunity to discuss, face to face, the progress of students with each of their teachers. Thank you for taking advantage of this opportunity. If you were unable to attend, please feel free to contact the school to arrange a phone interview with individual teachers. I was also available for interviews and appreciated the opportunity to meet you.

*Mr Ben Wickham
Year 11 Coordinator*

YEAR 10 NEWS

Year 10 students are currently in the process of organising their work experience placement for next term. There has been great Year 10 success and participation at Senior Interschool Sports and at the recent Swimming Carnival. Upcoming events for Year 10 are the 'Keys Please' Pre-Driver

Education Program, an excursion to a tertiary institution and the Salvation Army Youth Homelessness tour early in Term 2.

On the academic front, Year 10 students need to keep a focused approach in all their subjects and be spending time at home developing and using their independent study skills. Can I also take this moment to remind students and parents that Year 10s need to ensure that they keep their attendance at school above 90 percent.

*Ms Emma Schmidtke
Year 10 Coordinator*

DARWIN DEFENDERS COMMEMORATION SERVICE

On Wednesday 19th February a small group of students and I attended the Darwin Defenders 1942-1945 Commemoration Service at the Shrine of Remembrance. The students were a credit to GEC for the way that they presented themselves and participated in the service. They showed great respect for our fallen servicemen and women. It was a positive and rewarding activity as it reminded our students of the sacrifices that our veterans made for our country.

Clement Lancelot and Shruti Malaviya laid a wreath during the ceremony. Dana Frantzis was presented with a book about the bombing of Darwin which has been catalogued and put into the library.

Congratulations to Clement Lancelot, Shruti Malaviya, Callum Murphy, Dana Frantzis (year 12 captains and leaders), Sean Bennie and Amber Meadows (year 9 captains) for their impeccable behaviour.

*Laura Brancatella
Year 12 Coordinator*



Photo by Ryebuck Media & Troy Mortier Design

**Shruti Malaviya
and
Clement Lancelot**

GLEN EIRA COLLEGE PARENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS William Angliss Dinner – 24th May

Glen Eira Goes to Town - a chance to meet other school parents over a delicious dinner at the renowned William Angliss Institute Restaurant and raise some funds for the school. Please mark the date in your diary and look out for further information.

STUDENT ABSENCES

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



Trivia Night

Last year, we ran a Trivia Night which was great fun and raised \$10,000 for the school. We are hoping to repeat that success this year (probably in September), but need some more volunteers to form an organising committee. Not all volunteers will need to attend the meetings - some people may just help with certain tasks, such as designing flyers and certificates, soliciting donations for the silent auctions, setting up the hall or sending out certificates to sponsors.

Last year's Chairperson, Marie-Pierre Deleplanque, has already volunteered to be Chairperson again. We are also considering changing the format from Trivia to a music-based night (this decision will be up to the organising committee).

If you are interested in helping organise the Trivia Night, or can offer some specific skills, please send us an email at gecpa@gec.vic.edu.au, or ring/text Juliet on 0425 787 389.

Glen Huntly Village Street Festival

The Glen Eira College Parents Association joined in the fun of a local festival with a stall promoting the school on Saturday 15th March. It was a fun way to talk to parents of potential future students about GEC and why it's a great school. We raised just over \$400 from the sale of homemade jams, eco-friendly vegetable bags, lemons, cakes and drinks. Thanks to the volunteers who provided goodies for sale and ran the stall all day. Congratulations to the Glen Huntly Traders on a well-run first festival and the GEC students who performed during the day.

Join us

If you are not already receiving our emails please ask us to add you to our list by sending an email to gecpa@gec.vic.edu.au



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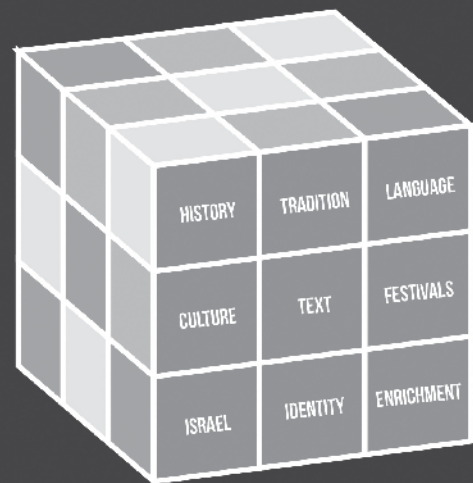
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VCE Registered Teacher, Kindergarten teacher
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Emet Israel Programme 2014

Who can go?

Any Jewish Year 10 student who attends a public school or non-Jewish private school in Australia.

When is it?

End of November to early January (six weeks in total).

What happens in Israel?

Outdoor activities including camel riding, swimming, hiking, rock climbing, bike riding, basketball, tunnels, ruins and exploring Israel.

Indoor activities including feasting on new foods, meeting people from around the world, army activities, learning and lots more.

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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.



GEC SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2014

Surf our internet address for information about the college and items of interest:
www.gec.vic.edu.au