



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

1248 High Street Road, Wantirna South, 3152 T: 9871 8600 F: 9887 3907 www.wcc.vic.edu.au Reg: A001722X

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A PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CULTURE AT WCC...



Last year, the College began a focus of developing a whole school professional learning culture. A culture of professional learning can be seen in schools and organisations that place a high value on learning and learning from each other. The outworking of this in the College will see a greater emphasis on teachers working with and learning from their peers. Over the next few years this will see teachers working together collegiately, discussing student learning and developing a College-wide culture of thinking. Teachers will be involved in a range of professional learning activities within the College, including:

- A shared classroom program where teachers observe each other teach and discuss learning
- The creation of reading circles to facilitate discussion about teaching practice and broader educational change
- The use of protocols in various staff forums for facilitating discussion about student learning
- The use of thinking routines in the classroom to encourage a greater level of student thinking
- Progressive implementation of the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PoLT) program.

Professional Learning Day

As part of this process of developing a professional learning culture, last week's Professional Learning Day focused teachers on gaining a better understanding of the Principles of Learning and Teaching.

The Principles of Learning and Teaching from Prep to Year 12 articulate six principles that can be used by schools, teams of teachers and individuals to reflect on learning and teaching practice and support professional dialogue to strengthen pedagogical practices. The Principles of Learning and Teaching P-12 initiative aims to:

- build consistent, comprehensive and improved pedagogical approaches across the College, while still allowing flexibility, innovation and individual decision making at the classroom level
- focus teaching to meet the diverse needs of students
- strengthen learning communities within and beyond the school.

There are six PoLT principles, as shown below. The focus of the recent Professional Learning Day was on the first two of these principles.

- The learning environment is supportive and productive.
- The learning environment promotes independence, interdependence and self-motivation.
- Students' needs, backgrounds, perspectives and interests are reflected in the learning program.
- Students are challenged and supported to develop deep levels of thinking and application.
- Assessment practices are an integral part of learning and teaching.
- Learning connects strongly with communities and practice beyond the classroom.

We look forward to the continued development of our professional learning culture as the year progresses.

Allister Rouse
(Director of Teaching and Learning)

Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews



Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews are being held on
Wednesday 1st April from 9:00am - 9:00pm.

****Secondary interviews will be 10 minutes in duration.**

We are continuing to use the successful online booking program that was introduced in 2008. This is an internet-based booking system called Parent Teacher Online. This has proven to be a great tool, saving time for parents, staff and students.

PLEASE NOTE: The online booking system will close on Monday at 4pm. If you have not made your appointments, we would encourage you to do this as soon as possible.

[Parent Teacher Online Information Letter](#) - Secondary

Supervision of Students

Parents, please remember that the day of the Parent /Teacher Interviews is a student free day for Secondary students. Your children are not to be in or around the school unsupervised while you meet with teachers. Teachers will not be available for student supervision and Primary classes will still be in operation. Students are welcome to attend interviews with their parents.

Mr Ian Bawden (Assistant Principal - Secondary)

Car Parking at the Parent/Teacher Interviews:

Additional parking will be available at Gate 3 on interview days after 9am, (when the drop-off zones cease).

NO parking is available at Gate 4.

Mr David Daff (Property Manager)

**"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.
Isaiah 55:8 (NIV)**

2009 VCE Basketball and Cricket Rally Day



VCE Basketball:

On Friday 20th March, we had our first VCE Rally Day coordinated by the CSSN (Christian Secondary Schools Network) Association. The girls rose to the occasion with 3 teams entering the competition. It was a fantastic time, filled

with fun, skill and a few mishaps. The results of the day were Team B came 4th, Team C 7th, and congratulations to Team A for winning the overall competition. They won with a convincing score of 24 to 11 points in the final. Thanks, girls, for a wonderful day!



VCE Cricket:

The College's first Interschool Cricket tournament was held at the Cranbourne Action Sport Centre. Expectations were high heading into the day, as we had one Year 11 team and one Year 12 team participating in the competition. As the day

progressed our the Year 12 team didn't make it through to the play off round. However, the Year 11 team went on to the final. In the end, Heatherton Christian College was too strong and won the final comfortably. Judging by the amount of cheering and excitement, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. What a great way to spend a day, playing cricket with your mates!

PE Staff



Special Musical Instrument Offer Years 3 to 6

A limited number of the following instruments are available: **Clarinet, Flute and 1 x 1/2 size Cello for private lessons** free of charge to Years 3 to 6 students for 2009.

Conditions:

- The student will have the use of the instrument for 2009
- The student is eligible for this offer if he/she is not already learning an orchestral instrument
- The student is required to commit to a whole year of tuition
- At the end of the school year the instrument must be serviced (e.g. Keyboard Corner approx \$75) and handed back to the College
- It is the user's responsibility for repairs during the year
- The student will have group lessons at the school and

will agree to the guidelines of the [Private Music Program](#)

- The student will have a 30 minute group lesson each week
- The student will be part of a group of 3 (\$11.50 per week) or 4 (\$8.50 per week). Fees are payable per term in advance
- They will be issued on a first in basis.

Please follow the link to register your interest, if you would like to take up the offer. [Years 3 to 6](#)



Up and Coming Events:

Wednesday 1st April:	Parent Teacher Interviews (Sec)
Friday 3rd April:	Last Day for students:
	Dismissal: 12:45pm (Prim)
	1:00pm (Sec)
TERM 2 At a glance:	
Monday 20th April	First Day of TERM 2
Thursday 30th April	House Cross Country



Entertainment Books 2009/2010

Pre-purchase forms for the new Entertainment Book (\$65.00) are now available. If you are interested, please collect your form from the General Office. If you have placed an order your book will be available from the General Office on Friday 3rd April.

Chaplains' Department



Primary and Secondary Chapel on 19th March 2009

There was no Primary or Secondary Chapel last week due to the Professional Development Day for all staff.

Chapel next week 2nd April:

Next week the Primary students will have David Cheah (Children's Pastor at CityLife Church) speak to them and the Secondary students will have Aaron Aguilar and the Choir Team share with them.

Mr Peter Nash (Senior Chaplain)

Family Feature: Self-esteem

Written by: Parenting SA "Helping parents be their best".



Healthy self-esteem is feeling good about yourself, feeling that you are a worthwhile person. While we all have self-doubts at times, it is important for children to feel okay about themselves most of the time. Self-esteem enables them to try new things without too much fear of failing, to reach out and make friends, and to manage problems they are likely to meet along the way. Self-

esteem builds a solid foundation for coping with life.

What is self-esteem?

- Self-esteem is about valuing who you are. It is about liking yourself. It is not conceit or boastfulness, but about believing in yourself and what you can do in the world. Self-esteem is how you feel about yourself as a person and knowing that there are things that you can do well - in other words it is about *being* and about *doing*.
- Part of self-esteem is feeling that you have a place in the world where you belong - that you are part of a family where you matter. It is knowing about your roots and having confidence in your future. This can be a problem for children who have come from other countries and lost touch with their 'roots'. It can also be a problem for children who have been part of a family break-up, if they are split off from part of their family and the history of that part of the family.
- Self-esteem is about what matters to you. If you want to be good at sport but everyone tells you that you are good at art it will not help your self-esteem very much. If you get encouragement and help in something you want to do, and you succeed, your self-esteem will grow.

Why is self-esteem important?

- There is in every culture a basic level of self-esteem that is needed in our family or culture.
- Self-esteem helps people to feel that they can develop their own skills and contribute to their community.
- Research suggests that when people have low self-esteem they don't feel confident about doing things for themselves or using their abilities and talents in the best way they can.
- Low self-esteem is also likely to be linked to worse health outcomes such as stress, coronary heart disease and an increase in anti-social behaviours.

It is important to help develop children's self-esteem from the time they are born to give them a good foundation and help prevent poorer health outcomes for them later in adult life. Children of all cultures need to have a place in the family and need to know they are loved because of the special people they are.

Cultural differences

It is important to recognise that some people in some cultures believe that feeling good about your group or community is important, while feeling good about yourself as an individual is not as valued. In some cultures, it is common practice for parents not to praise their child for fear it will create a self-satisfaction that will prevent the child from trying harder. In some cultures praise is also avoided to prevent a child from becoming 'boastful'. However, having personal confidence and self-esteem does not mean giving up these cultural values, but it can add to them. When children feel good, they usually try harder than those who don't.

Next week, we will look at how self-esteem is developed.

Principal's Awards

Prep C

Micah Dans

Being an enthusiastic learner in all class activities.

Cassandra Lim

Being a diligent student who always completes work neatly.

Joshua Sutherland

Displaying beautiful manners and giving his best efforts to his schoolwork at all times.

Prep Y

Joyce Chen

Obedying her teachers quickly and cheerfully.

Aaron Sow

Being a kind and helpful friend in the classroom.

Matthew Piesse

Being an attentive listener in the classroom.

Year 1P

Josephine Tay

Displaying sincerity by always being eager to do the right thing in class.

Matthew Wong

Displaying beautiful manners and being kind and helpful to his classmates.

Aleshea Ng

Displaying enthusiasm and creativity in story writing activities.

Year 2B

Katrina Best

A positive attitude and a great start to her new school.

Lois Jeyaranjit

Being responsible and always having a good attitude.

Raymond Stokes

Fantastic attitude and effort in all his work.

Year 2C

Rachel Kenyon

Showing attentiveness and working hard to do her best at all times.



Principal's Awards Continued...



Timothy Margetts

Being enthusiastic in all subjects and willingly sharing his general knowledge.

Chiara Deer

Demonstrating good thinking skills and showing greater confidence in sharing her thoughts.

Jordan Dekker

Showing responsibility by taking care of his health needs with a positive attitude.

Year 2V

Jordan Simmons

Taking risks in his learning and thinking outside the box.

Charlie Song

Demonstrating leadership qualities and helping others.

Liam Pirie

Demonstrating truthfulness and courage.

Year 3H

Ari Larsen

Demonstrating diligence by focusing in class on every task set before him.

Joyce Cheung

Completing her written work to such a high standard.

Year 4A

Will Forbes

Showing great creativity in drawing his map for his Country Project.

Danielle Hu

Always demonstrating an attitude of gratefulness in class.

Year 4R

Grace Catros

Being a thoughtful student by demonstrating sincere and sensitive character qualities in class.

Jessica Xu

Being well organized, punctual, polite, attentive and obedient in all that she does in the classroom.

Year 5C

Stephanie Michaels

Having a joyful outlook towards all tasks.

Joseph Hoh

Being diligent in completing all set classroom tasks.

Larissa Teo

Showing enthusiasm in being involved in classroom discussions.

Year 6C

Ezra Holt

Always having a positive and humble attitude.

Kim-Yin Ngo

Consistently working productively in all group activities.

Joseph Wu

Working diligently through more difficult Maths problems.

Year 6K

Joanna Tissainayagam

Her grateful, joyful manner and her encouragement of her classmates.

Cecilia Wang

Her gentle, loving nature and diligence with her school work.

Ryan Wilson

His cheerful attitude to his school work and his wonderful sense of fun.

Year 6R

Alicia Kwo

Displaying creativity in all of her work.

Rachel Larsen

Settling in so well and being a valuable member of the class.

Edward Ting

Being an attentive and creative member of the class.

11C

Rosa Hwang

Going out of her way to care for others.

Congratulations to All...



Go Fresh Vending Machine

The installation of the Go Fresh Vending Machine has proven to be extremely popular with parents and students. Recently the machine has had some problems communicating with the database via the mobile phone network. These issues should now be resolved as the vending company has changed the SIM card in the machine to another mobile carrier.

If you haven't signed up online to use the machine, you can do so at www.schoolsgofresh.com.au. Currently the vending company is offering \$10 free credit but this offer will expire at the end of this term.



Congratulations...

To James Donato for his fantastic effort on reaching State level for 90m Hurdles and Long Jump.



WCC Notice Board...

***Parents, please be aware that the Newsletter is posted on the College's Website and is not password protected. This means that any personal details included in the WCC Notice Board are available to the wider community.*

Holiday Home: Phillip Island

Sleeps up to 5. Less than 1 minute walk to the beautiful sandy beach. Perfect for families with children. Only \$110 per night with a minimum booking of 2 nights. Available over the school holidays. During the Easter long weekend the minimum booking will be 3 nights. For inquiries and bookings please call **0422355578** or email: peachy.vasquez@arts.monash.edu.au

For Sale: Casio Keyboard CTK451 CTK- 471

100 Tones, 100 Rhythms, 100 Tune song bank. Auto Accompaniment, musical information system and Midi compatibility. As new, little use. **Call 0425736847.**



Car Pooling...

New family of two children (Year 1 and Prep) is seeking to car pool with another family (maximum two children). Mt Waverley or Ashwood area. Please ring Rob or Thera on **03 9807 2496** or **0439 038 182.**

Cars for Sale

2002 Holden Berlina -Sedan Auto . LPG Gas just installed (Jan 2009) CD, air con, air bags, cruise control, central locking, climate control and all electrics.

Price \$10,500 ono. for a quick sale. Call 0414 256 977 for more details.

2000 Honda CR-V Sport 4 door 5 seat Auto. Ruby red. Electric sunroof, 6 stacker CD player, central locking electric mirrors and windows etc. Low kms. (only 94000 km)

Price \$12,500 ono.

Call 0414 256 977 for more details.

For Sale: Wireless PCI Network Cards

The school has a number of DLink Air-Plus G DWL-G510 PCI wireless network cards for sale. They are \$10 each. If interested, please pick one up from the General Office. They are used and have been removed from working systems. Strictly CASH only.

Community Announcements...

Fun in the Park!

Fun in the Park is a Dads' and Families' day out! The event is being held at Glen Park Community Centre on Saturday 28th March between 11am and 2pm. For more information, follow the [LINK](#) to the flyer.

Items appearing under 'Community Announcements' are placed for the interest of families. The College does not necessarily have any particular knowledge of, or endorse, the community activities advertised.

WEP Australia World Education Program

Learn all about student exchange, WEP Australia and the 2009/2010 exchange programs available at one of WEP's FREE information sessions in Melbourne.

31st March, 16th June

7.30pm - 9.30pm

Hawthorn Library
584 Glenferrie Road/
Hawthorn 3122

Students can choose from over 20 countries in which to live and study with the support of a host family, school and community. Explore new opportunities beyond the classroom!

WEP is now offering Early Bird Specials and Scholarships to some of its most popular destinations.

Apply now and save \$500 off the 2009/10 program fee to selected countries. Visit www.wep.org.au to find out more or phone for the cost of a local call 1300 884 733.

WEP Australia is a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the Education Departments.



"You Can Be Another Great Australian"

This book focuses on the lives of 40 great Australians, and how God used them to bless the nation of Australia in its formative years.

As our nation rebuilds in the wake of bushfires, floods and financial crises, it seems like a good idea to look to those brave men and women, our pioneers, who built our great nation, as examples. From them, we cannot help but see the importance of building on a Godly foundation, on prayer and Biblical principles. There has never been a better time to gain an awareness of, and appreciation for, Australia's strong Christian heritage. With a sense of our heritage comes a sense of our destiny, of God's great plan for this nation, and also the great sense of the hope that comes with such a destiny. There also comes a challenge: to live up to the mighty example of the Godly men and women we read about.

You can order "**You Can Be Another Great Australian**" by sending your postal details and a cheque to:

Margot Ogilvie, P.O. Box 120, Victor Harbor. S.A. 5211.

Alternatively, you can email your credit card details to the address below.

RRP is \$20/book (Includes postage and handling.)

Enquiries: Email anothergreataustralian@gmail.com