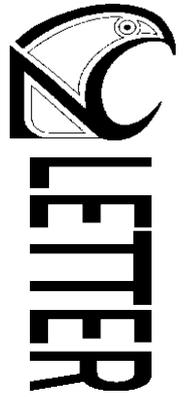


NARRABUNDAH COLLEGE

NEWS



www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au

No 5 Aug 2015

PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

WHAT DO OUR STUDENTS NEED FOR THEIR FUTURE?

I recently attended a principals' forum where Dr Sara Glover, Director of the Mitchell Institute (a new think tank in education) spoke about the future for our students.

I regularly share new directions in careers with our student body. Dr Glover reinforced the message that our students have heard while at this college.

The skills that our students need are:

- To be confident, curious and creative learners
- To have cognitive, social and emotional skills
- To develop deeper and diverse talents

Bernard Salt (May 2014) believes that future workers' skill set includes flexibility, fluidity, agility and positive outgoing social demeanour. These are qualities we promote at our college.

Over the last 5 years there has been an exponential increase in jobs like: data scientists, Android Developers, Big Data architect, and social media interns. The message for our students today is that: **you will be job creators not job seekers.**

The recent whole college excursion to Careers Market is an important contributor to students being exposed to what careers are out there and we will keep promoting opportunities in WEX and through our significant lectures program across the college.

Students are now choosing classes for next session. We guarantee courses not teachers or lines. Students need to be resilient and flexible when choosing classes. They do need to develop skills to prepare them for post college pathways.

EXTERNAL VALIDATION

Thank you to our community members who contributed to the consultation process for the External Validation process.

We have started the planning for our next Strategic Plan for 2016-2019. You will receive more information about this later this year.

TEST WEEK

This session, which is a semester length, is drawing to a close with the cross-line tests to start on Thursday 27 August and conclude on Friday 4 September. A tutorial program will operate for all classes when tests are not being held during that time. The tutorials will provide students with the opportunity to develop further understandings of concepts and prepare for their tests.

If a student is unwell on a day when a test is scheduled I advise him/her not to attend the test. Please contact the school and advise us prior to the test being held. This absence will need to be explained with a medical certificate.

AST

Year 12 students intending to gain a Tertiary Entrance Statement necessary for university entrance **MUST** sit the AST. These tests will be held on Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September. Student performance in the AST does make a significant contribution to the calculation of course scores and the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). All our students have been well prepared in terms of what to expect with the papers and we expect each student to do as well as they can on the tests.

FEEDBACK MORNING

Feedback Morning on Monday 14 September is for all classes. The college promotes a strong focus on feedback. When students collect marked tests and assignments they do need to ask questions in order to learn from this feedback to continue to improve their results.

P & C TRIVIA NIGHT

I would like to encourage you to support the Trivia Night to be held here at the college on 5 November (please note the changed date). Last year's Trivia Night was a great success so come along and enjoy the evening while raising funds for our college.

STUDENT SUCCESSES

Some recent student successes that have been outstanding are:

- The French Bac students for their exceptional results including 5 students attaining an ATAR over 99: Daniel H, Tom L, Emilie T, Veronique W K I and Manon P.
- The production students who performed ***The Complete Works of William Shakespeare***. The students brought to life this very entertaining and humorous play to large audiences.
- The Winter Music Concert showcased our students' talent.
- Chloe K, Bryce T, Max de K and Maeve M who were runners Up in the Douse Debating Competition.
- Evelyn M who won a Gold Award in the Language Perfect World Championships with Bronze to Aislinn O and Credit to Hannah H.
- Three teams were finalists in the Young Business Leaders' Challenge run by the ANU College of Business and Economics.
- Sam H who has been awarded a cadetship with RSM Bird Cameron to start next year.
- 8 students' work shown at the Limelight Art Exhibition.
- 8 students' films shown at the recent Limelight Film Festival.
- Sacha T, George L and Stella G were the only 3 students selected from the ACT to attend National Indigenous Leadership Conference at Melbourne Uni.
- Ben F who was successful in his attempt to swim the English Channel.

Congratulations to Cate Rosier who was nominated for the Education and Training Directorate Excellence Awards.

Regards
Kerrie Grundy
Principal

2015 SCHOOL SATISFACTION SURVEYS

The 2015 School Satisfaction Surveys will be conducted later this term. Parents and carers, school staff and students (in years 5 to 12) will be asked to participate in these important surveys. The survey results will contribute to the school improvement process, which aims to achieve high standards in student learning, innovation and best practice in ACT public schools. Although the survey is voluntary, we hope you will want to participate. It won't take much of your time and it will help us understand areas where we are doing a good job and areas for further development. A letter or email about the parent survey will be sent to you in August. The key ACT results from the 2014 School Satisfaction Surveys have been published on the Education and Training Directorate website (www.det.act.gov.au) and a summary of our school results is provided in our 2014 School Board Report.

Kerrie Grundy

Australian School Climate Measurement Tool (ASCMT) survey

This school is continually interested in gaining information that will assist in school planning and making decisions on an informed basis. To this end, the school in partnership with the Australian National University and the ACT of Education and Training Directorate is surveying staff, students and parents/carers. ANU is administering the survey on behalf of the Education and Training Directorate (ETD) and will be involved in data analysis and reporting of the findings to schools and the ETD in a way that ensures the anonymity of students. Details about how your information is stored and used are available in the ETD Privacy Policy (available at <http://det.act.gov.au>).

The aim is to gather information about the school's social climate, day-to-day experiences, the strengths of the school, and the future challenges. This survey will take place this term (Term 3, 2015). You will receive an e-mail from the school with a link to the survey and students will complete the survey at school.

We hope to be able to discuss the findings of the survey with you at a future time and feel that gathering this information annually is important in ensuring the quality of the relational and wellbeing climate of the school for staff, students and parents/carers.

Kerrie Grundy



P&C Trivia Night

(adults over 18 only)

6.30pm

5 November

We might not be able to have fireworks on Guy Fawkes night these days but we can still have fun!

5 November is our Annual Trivia Night this year! So please put this date in your diary and join us for a night of fun and fundraising.

Volunteers to help us make the night a success are always welcome. If you have some time on the night or perhaps can donate a prize please let me know (susanmrogers@gmail.com).

The next P&C meeting is here at the college on 9 September, 6.30 pm. Look forward to seeing you then.

UNIVERSITY AND CIT ADMISSIONS FOR YEAR 12 FOR 2016

University admissions in all states are now open for Year 12 applications for study in 2016. As all states have separate application centres, students will need to apply to the University Admissions Centre (UAC) for all NSW and ACT universities and then a separate application through each state they want to be considered for. Each state will make a maximum of one offer. All Year 12 students sitting AST should have picked up their free UAC guide from the library – this outlines all university courses in NSW and the ACT. Students have also received the sheet included in this newsletter that outlines procedures for applying through UAC and also the Victorian equivalent, VTAC. This sheet was also emailed to all parents. For states other than ACT and NSW, some university guides are available for use at school from the Student Advisers, but if students want their own hard copy these are available from newsagents. All the information provided in these guides is available on the web, both at the admission centre sites and also at each individual university site.

Year 12 students are reminded that applications for all states need to be lodged by **Wednesday 30 September 2015** or a late fee will be charged. Preferences can be changed after this date, most notably when students receive their ATAR.

Most institutions that participate in the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) have an Educational Access Scheme (EAS) for applicants who have experienced long term educational disadvantage. Any enquiries can be directed to the school counsellor, Caroline Dawson. This year there is also an expanded School Recommendation Scheme (replacing programs such as the Principal's Recommendation at University of Canberra). This scheme allows the college to recommend students for tertiary study who have demonstrated they are capable of succeeding at the tertiary level, but for a variety of reasons may not quite meet the cut off. Not all universities and not all courses take part in the scheme. Students interested in studying at one of the participating universities need to check with their adviser regarding their eligibility.

For ACT Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) applications, a representative will be visiting the college in October to meet and advise students.

SESSION 3

All students should have chosen their courses for next session. For Year 11 students most will continue with their current courses until the end of the year. In December all Year 11 students and parents will have a meeting with either an adviser or one of the executive teachers to review their Year 11 results, be given an ATAR estimate and look at choices for Year 12. We strongly encourage all Year 11 students and their parents or carers to take up this opportunity to ensure well informed decisions can be made for the final year of college. Information about bookings will be distributed next session.

STUDENT SERVICES NEWS

Student Adviser and Student Surname Alphabet:

Julie Bauer	Student Surnames A-F	614 23219
julie.bauer@ed.act.edu.au		
Andrea Trappes	Student Surnames G-L	614 23215
andrea.trappes@ed.act.edu.au		
Birgit Matwijiw	Student Surnames M-Sm	614 23216
birgit.matwijiw@ed.act.edu.au		
Delisia Wiild	Student Surnames Sn-Z	614 23220
delisia.wiild@ed.act.edu.au		
Caroline Dawson – School Counsellor		614 23200
caroline.dawson@ed.act.edu.au		
Glenda Nimmo – Careers/Transition/WEX		614 23218
glenda.nimmo@ed.act.edu.au		
Mary Weddell – Learning Support		614 23226
mary.weddell@ed.act.edu.au		
Jenny Budd – Deputy Principal (students)		614 23207
Jenny.budd@ed.act.edu.au		

For session 3, many Year 12s will have the option of concentrating on just 4 lines, provided they have sufficient points and enough majors and minors. If this is the case, parents are asked to sign off on a note completed by the relevant Student Adviser. If there are any questions regarding this, please contact the Student Advisers. This is a key time for Year 12 students to review their packages and ensure they are meeting all the requirements of both the Year 12 Certificate and, if relevant, an ATAR.

Overall this is a very busy time for students, especially Year 12. Many students sat the **UMAT** testing on 29 July as part of entry requirements to the medical sciences. For students who progress to the interview round, especially for medicine, we will provide extensive interview practice later in the year. **AST training** has finished and we hope all students feel well prepared and will do their best in the tests on Tuesday 1 September and Wednesday 2 September. Both the Multiple Choice and the Short Response papers are scheduled for the Tuesday and the Writing Task is on Wednesday. If a student is ill on either of the AST days they must contact the college early on the day so they can be given the correct procedures to ensure they don't jeopardise their ATAR.

The whole college had a very successful excursion to the **Careers Xpo** on Wednesday 29 July. Students accessed information from a huge number of universities, CIT, government agencies and private providers on post college options. Student Advisers welcome students to come in and follow up on this or any other careers information.

ABSENCES

Students are reminded to closely monitor unexplained absences. The BSSS has strict requirements for class attendance. Absences that remain unexplained may result in a void in that subject. In this long session, any more than six unexplained absences will result in an automatic V grade. **Please ensure absence notes include an acceptable reason and check dates are correct. Some notes recently, have not been able to be processed due to a lack of information.**

If absences are foreseeable, prior notice should be given to the school. An application will need to be made to the principal for any foreseen extended periods of unavoidable absence. Please ensure all personal details and contacts are up to date. Clear and timely communication is a vital aspect of our work in Student Services.

Delisia Wiild - Student Adviser

MENSLINK VISIT "BE A MATE"

On Wednesday 5th August the male students in the College had the opportunity to hear from one of the premier men's support networks in the ACT.

Menslink offers counselling, mentoring and school visits to young men aged 12 to 25.

We welcomed Des Linehan, one of the mentors, who brought with him Mark, an army officer who has suffered from post-combative stress disorder, Jordan, a young man whose promising rugby career was cruelly ended by a serious back injury, and two current Brumbies, Ben Alexander and Josh Mann Rea.

All of the presenters spoke to the boys about the hardships they had faced, how they had realised they needed help, and the healing process that began when they reached out to someone.

The overarching message was, and is, for boys not to bottle up their emotions and 'tough out' the hard times, but to actively seek help, and even more importantly, to recognise when a mate needs help, and tell him and/or someone else.

If you need help, or you believe your son does, or you would like to get in touch with Menslink re male mentoring and counselling, their web site is menslink.org.au

SAFE SCHOOLS SYMPOSIUM 2015

Narrabundah College is a member of the Safe Schools Coalition. Two of our students, Jade P and Lola P, attended the National Safe Schools Symposium on July 30th in Sydney.

Over 180 students from all over Australia attended the National Symposium. The students arrived with heaps of energy and ideas for what we can do better to create safe and inclusive schools. They joined in workshops on how to start Stand-Out Groups (diversity alliances) at school and about sharing their personal stories – which can be challenging, powerful and empowering.

As well as co-facilitating several symposium workshops, young people were also highlights of the day during a panel discussion with young people talking about their experiences.

Andrea Trappes

TRANSITION AND CAREERS

WORK EXPERIENCE

The application period for Work Experience has been extended until Monday 24 August.

For Year 12 students this is the last opportunity to do WEX and have points count toward your Year 12 Certificate. We recommend that all students complete at least two (preferably more) Work Experience placements during their two years at College.

ROAD READY

We will be running another Road Ready Course Wednesday 9 – Thursday 10 September.

There is no cost associated for students who complete this course at College.

Sign-up sheets are in the Student Services area or see Julie Bauer or Glenda Nimmo to be included.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Narrabundah College will continue in term four with our partnership with Marymead where some of our students work with Staff in the Marymead Urban Land Community Harvest (MULCH) program.

Any students who are interested in volunteering in the program for the first five Thursday afternoons in term four, should see Glenda in the Careers Office to find out more.

HUMANITIES NEWS

MEDIA

A group of Media students from the College assisted Year 10 students from Telopea Park School in creating 30 second commercials as part of Australian Business Week on Thursday 2 July. This was a great opportunity for Media students to work to client and to a deadline. It was also a great opportunity for ex-Telopea students to showcase their new media skills to their former teachers. Thanks to Alex, Antonia, Bella, Charlie, Eli, Glynis, Maithri, Matt, Melia, Nyssa, Phoebe A., Phoebe L., Sophia, and Vanessa for their efforts on the day.

A number of Media students have had their films selected into the *2015 Step into the Limelight Film Festival*. The films selected are *The Manliness of Dance* by Jack; *The Unvarnished Truth* by Alex and Bella; *Apparition* by Sophia and Lachlan; and *Ten* by Glynis, Melia and Nyssa. The festival will include 28 films from 10 ACT public schools. The selected works will be screened at the Palace Electric Cinema on Tuesday 18 August at 6:30pm. Entry is be gold coin donation per person.



Media students attended a special schools' matinee screening of the documentary film, *The Wolfpack* at Palace Electric. The students also go to take part in a Q&A with Simon Weaving and the US-born director of the film Crystal Moselle.

A reminder that all Year 11 and 12 media students need to have their USI forms into the Front Office ASAP. Students will not receive their Certificate II in Creative Industries (Media) if they have not provided the school

with their USI number. The next week of work experience is also the last opportunity for Year 12 media students to complete a structured work placement. If there are any media students interested in working in the industry for a week please see Amelia in the Humanities staffroom.

STUDENT TRIVIA NIGHT



The Student Trivia Night was held in the Library on Thursday 2 July. The event was well attended by students across Year 11 and 12 who dressed up as their favourite Marvel or DC Comics characters. A huge thank you to our sponsors who kindly donated prizes to this event: Manuka Gelatissimo; The Canberra Raiders; Manuka Grill'd; The Games Capital; Hilary B.; Ngaire G. and Narrabundah College. This event could not have taken place without the assistance of Chris and Malcolm from the Library and our IB CAS volunteers.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

A reminder to all Year 11 and 12 students who are studying a vocational course to please hand in their USI forms into the Front Office ASAP. Students will not receive their certificates or statements of attainment if they have not provided the school with their USI number.

The next work experience period will also be the last opportunity for Year 12 students to complete a structured work placement in their specific vocational industry. If you are interested in completing a structured work placement please speak to Glenda in Student Services or your VET teacher.

Congratulations to 2014 graduates Stacey B and Matt O who are ACT recipients of the 2014 Australian Vocational Student Prize. Stacey and Matt have each won \$1000 as part of the prize which recognizes their achievements studying vocational courses (specifically Media and IT) during their time at Narrabundah College. Stacey has also won the ACT award for the 2014 Australian Award for Skills Excellence in School. Stacey says '*the confidence [she] built over those two years will help [her] for many years to come*'.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES EXCURSION

This excursion was designed to explore issues relating to both psychology and sociology. In particular issues of race and ethnicity, prejudice and discrimination, class,

mental health, homelessness, addiction and drug rehabilitation.

- Odyssey house – a drug and Alcohol rehabilitation centre – personal recounts from recovering addicts.
- Lakemba Mosque – Q and A session with a visiting Sheik
- Wayside Chapel – a drop in and non-judgemental front-line service and referral centre for any person living in the Kings Cross region
- Jewish Holocaust museum – heard personal recounts from holocaust survivors
- Aboriginal Cultural tour – at Botany Bay – visited the site where Captain Cook landed and heard an Aboriginal perspective of the landing and the issues facing local indigenous people in the area today – also a strong focus on the deep spirituality of the site and responsibility of the future generation to make things right.



“Facing the reality of the holocaust shocked me incredibly. The sheer numbers of the horrific event shocked me and Yvonne’s story, I will never forget – thank you.”

“The trip has taught me so much especially about not judging people/groups. You really need to get to know individuals rather than just believing what you hear about them.”

“Going to the mosque made me really angry that people are so hostile towards Muslims when they’re really a religion about love and charity. It’s crazy that people link that whole religion to terrorism.”

On this trip I learnt primarily that most of the social prejudice towards minorities is due to misrepresentation and that if certain people heard the things I heard on this trip then it might be less of an issue”

“This trip has left me being extremely open-minded to all – no matter what their socio-economic status and race”.

“The mosque reinforced that Muslims are no different to anyone else and are not always what the media says.”

“Hearing about Islam from Muslims rather than the media was very interesting.”

I think something that really stood out for me was the trip to Lakemba Mosque. I was so amazed at how welcoming they were. I loved how you could tell how passionate they were about sharing their religion with us. So I think I learned something about not to base judgements on what you hear about something, until you experience it yourself. They were truly inspirational and beautiful souls. The same goes for all who shared their stories with us”

“The stick thing was cool, like it actually blew my mind” (Aboriginal cultural tour)

This excursion challenged me to confront my values and my own personal views. I learned how incredibly dangerous it is to form opinions based on ignorance, how cruel humans can become and how forgiving and good humans are. Very insightful exploration of human nature overall, if not confronting”

“I enjoyed the whole trip and all the places we went. The best part was being able to meet all these amazing interesting people with such different backgrounds and stories and all of them getting one message across – we are all human, we are all equal, but for that to be true we need to change a lot of things”.

“I really enjoyed Lakemba Mosque – especially when the Sheik sang (recited) the Koran. I think I’ve learnt something about acceptance, tolerance and welcoming everyone.

“The entire trip was such an amazing and eye opening experience, especially getting to hear personal stories. What will really stay with me is the work of the wayside chapel. Thank you so much for an amazing trip Bronwen and Tom”

Bronwen Scully

DANCE

Dance students have been busy preparing for Ausdance ACT’s Youth Dance Festival. Students will perform *Dia de los Muertos* on Thursday 17 July and *Feeling Good* on Friday 18 July at The Canberra Theatre. Tickets will be on sale via Canberra Ticketing.

There is an opportunity for interested dance and theatre students to work backstage at Ausdance ACT’s Youth Dance Festival in the week commencing Monday 14 September. Interested students should see Amelia in the Humanities staffroom.

Dance students will travel to Sydney on the 19 and 20 August to see *Les Miserables* and take classes in different styles at Sydney Dance Company and Brent Street.

Congratulations to Amelia, who is currently playing Marty in *Grease* at The Q - Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre until Saturday 15 August, and to Caroline and Ursula who performed in QL2’s *Reckless Valour*.

Amelia Ghirardello

ART NEWS



Photograph by Maria

On Friday the 26th of June, students studying Ceramics hosted a successful fundraiser for **Stop the Traffik**, "...a global movement of activists around the world who passionately give their time and energy to build resilient communities and prevent human trafficking." Staff and students feverishly snapped up an enormous collection of Life Vessels- handmade ceramic pots which had been planted with succulents (all generously donated by staff and students here at school). In just 40 minutes we raised more than \$600! *Stop The Traffik* sent a special thank-you letter in response to the generous donation, stating that the money raised will go towards campaign mobilisation which includes research, planning and development, resources, and lobbying. An enormous thank you to Emma and her talented Contemporary Music students, who entertained the crowd, and to all participants who helped make this such an excellent event. For further information please visit www.stophetraffik.org

This term, Art and Ceramics students were treated to a morning of workshop tours at the School of Art, ANU. The enthusiastic group were given a tour of the state of the art facilities, including the hi-tech darkroom which houses 23 individual printing booths, as well as the student spaces, studios, labs and gallery spaces. This visit to the prestigious institution coincided with the *Step into the Limelight* exhibition, now in its ninth year. The exhibition featured work from 65 public schools and this year there were eight students from Narrabundah College featured in the show.

Sam Townsend

FRENCH BAC NEWS

YEAR 12

All of the Year 12 students in the French Stream have now left Narrabundah College. The results of the 2015 Baccalauréat were posted on the 26th of June and they are excellent. All 21 students passed the exam, 17 with distinction.

- 17 students passed the scientific Baccalauréat. 6 among them obtained the highest distinction, Mention "très bien" (5 of them got an ATAR > 99).
- 4 students passed the literary Baccalauréat (2 of them got an ATAR > 98)



French Bac students (and teachers) with their medals at the graduation ceremony
July 1st – Narrabundah College

The graduation ceremony took place at Narrabundah College in the library's mezzanine on July 1st in the presence of Ms. Kerrie Grundy, Ms. Kerrie Blain (Principal of Telopea Park School), M. Emmanuel Texier (Proviseur of the Lycée Franco Australien de Canberra), Ms. Catherine Hodeir (Cooperation Attaché to the French Embassy), the teachers, the students and their families.

YEAR 11

The Year 11 students have now reached their last year of college in the French Stream. On July 20th they started their "Terminale" class.

The number of students enrolled in the French Baccalauréat is still important. Thirteen students are taking the scientific stream of the Baccalauréat, while three students are taking the literary stream.

This last year of school also means that the students who are considering applying for tertiary studies in France have to obtain specific information about the application process. In order to help in this matter, a Parent information evening took place on Thursday 30th August.

If you have not done so yet, please fill in the CNED LV2 registration form the students received from M. Texier earlier this term. Please hand in the forms and make your payments to Catherine Bucholz at Telopea Park School.

Bonne rentrée à tous.

Eric Dostal

French Baccalauréat Coordinator

LANGUAGE NEWS

Natalie and Sophie are proud to announce that Narrabundah French students were, once again, selected for the final round of the Georges Vincent language competition.

Nine of our Continuing and Advanced students went to perform a fifteen minutes long individual oral in front of a jury at the Alliance Française of Canberra last week. The topics were eclectic and included a question about a New-Zealander who won the French scrabble world championship even though he does not speak a word of French. He apparently learnt the whole French dictionary in nine weeks! The students enjoyed the linguistic and cultural challenges of the competition and eagerly await the official results!

French teachers: Sophie Burton and Natalie O'Toole

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE NEWS

YEAR 12

Extended Essays

Congratulations to the Diploma students who have completed their Extended Essays. The topics are impressive and the depth of research and high level of academic presentation is a credit to the students. I would also like to thank the teachers who volunteered to supervise extended essays and gave so generously of their time.

Internal Assessment Requirements

Internal assessment tasks will be finalised by all candidates over the next few weeks. Students should check deadlines and requirements with their subject teachers. Students **MUST** submit their work through TURNITIN to see if they have forgotten to acknowledge any work. If students are having difficulties, please see me. I cannot delay sending work to the IB examiners so all students **MUST** have their work ready by the due dates.

CAS hours and journals must be completed by 18 September.

Trial Exams

IB trial exams will be held at the college during assessment week, from Monday to Thursday 7th – 10th September. Students have been issued with a timetable for these trials. This is invaluable practice for the final exams in November. Students are to contact their teachers if they have any questions.

November IB exams

All Yr 12 students have been issued timetables for the November exams. The actual times for the exams will be distributed in September.

YEAR 11

Extended Essays

I will be holding a meeting for Year 11 IB parents and students on **24th September from 5.00 – 6.00pm**

upstairs in the library to discuss the process for Extended Essays.

Yr. 11 IB Environmental system and society (ESS) students

Yr. 11 IB students will complete their ESS trial papers within class time. Students have been issued timetables for the November exams in their N groups. The actual times for the exams will be distributed in September.

CAS

All students should be reflecting on their activities and writing up their CAS journals on a regular basis.

Chris Ward IB Coordinator

HISTOKENGPOL HAPPENINGS

[News from the English/History Department]

ENGLISH

With Session 3 drawing to a close students are applying their energies to preparation for the In-Class essays which will be done during Weeks 16-17 and completing Creative Writing Folios. Students should now focus on identifying key themes in their texts and looking at the range of techniques used by the writer to bring them to life for the reader. The writing of essays under test conditions will be a particular focus across all our English classes in the remaining weeks. This said, we all learn by doing- theory is useful but doesn't replace doing practice essays at home on the text to get used to responding to the text in structured paragraphs. Students can make up their own questions (a useful exercise in possibility-thinking before the exam) or ask for essay questions in class.

Sometimes students benefit from one-on-one tuition over a sustained period and we have a list of past students who are available as tutors. Please email or call and I will send you the list of students and their contact details.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ENGLISH

Year 11 IB Literature Students

Our IB students have almost finished their study of literature in translation and they are now devising and working on their topics for the externally assessed IB Written Task. They will hand this in Wednesday Week 17, receive feedback in their assessment and submit a final polished copy at the very beginning of Year 12-Friday Week 1 of Session 1, 2016.

Year 12 IB Literature Students

Our Year 12 students are busy reading, discussing and preparing their last novel in their Modern Novels classes in readiness for the Exams at the end of this session. IB final examinations begin November 3. Tutorials in English for the examinations will begin immediately in Session 3 and run for 4 weeks.

Guest talk in English

Wednesday 12th August, Dea Walker's North American Literature class welcomed Dr Julian Lamb (Professor at University of Hong Kong and an ex-Narrabundah student) who spoke about TS Eliot's, *The Wasteland* and gave a performance of sections of it.

Anni Medway SLC English/History

DEBATING

Narrabundah 1 Runners up in Douse Trophy Debating Competition

Having had seven teams in the competition and two in the semi-finals, it was only fitting that Narrabundah should be represented at the Grand Final against St Clare's.

Last year's Narrabundah 1 faced St Clare's – with most of the students being the same as the last Grand Final, which we lost.

While the headline has already indicated the result, I want to note how close the debate was, resulting in a split 4/1 on the panel, which ultimately awarded the trophy to St Clare's.

Those of us who watched our team, however, have immense admiration for their breadth of knowledge on an incredibly difficult international subject (whether or not NGOs should be allowed to pay extremist organisations in order to dispense aid on the ground), and also the quality of arguments they mounted throughout the case. In addition, I noted the restraint and respect which our team showed even in heated and heady combat with the opposition!

To be in two Grand Finals in a row is a huge tribute to the talent of these students, and we should all congratulate them - Chloe K, Bryce T, Maeve M and Max De K.

Congratulations to all debaters who participated in the Douse Trophy next year, many of whom look forward to beginning a new competition next week with the advent of the Premer Cup.

Emma Wood- Debating Co-ordinator

HISTORY & POLITICS

ACT Constitutional Convention 2015

This year's Constitution Convention was a two day event about the federal powers in relation to the environment. Narrabundah College was represented by Gabrielle W, Gian F and Felix M.

The first half of day one was held at the National Archives, where Professor Kim Rubenstein ANU College of Law gave a speech on an Introduction to the Australian Constitution. Shortis and Simpson entertained us with a musical cabaret on the Constitution joined by Martina Fechner, who recounted her tale of protesting against the construction of the Franklin River dam in 1982 and 1983. After lunch, a mock trial was held in the two chambers of Old Parliament House, where we were

given the opportunity to re-enact the 1984 debate between the Hawke government and the opposition in respect the constitutional power to legislate for the Franklin River. All of these activities were in lead up to the eventful second day. Students from all over Canberra made up what must have been the biggest sitting in the Legislative Assembly to date; from there, a series of workshops enhanced our understanding of the issues and we were treated to a riveting debate. MLA Shane Rattenbury, a member for the Greens party, spearheaded the strong arguments for allowing the federal government to legislate for the environment, whilst Mr Andrew Wall, a Liberal party member, led a convincing argument against the proposition. A referendum, giving power to the federal government to legislate for the environment was held, with the representatives from each school voting as the states and territories would. After finishing up, it was clear that everyone had an enjoyable learning experience and gained a great deal from being able to engage with other young people who are passionate about politics and the issues we all face.

Carol Green, Politics Teacher



LECTURE ON THE THIRD REICH, BY EMINENT GERMAN HISTORY EXPERT, DR RICHARD EVANS

On 27 July, history students were treated to a lecture on the Third Reich, by eminent German history expert, Dr. Richard Evans. While as verbose as any other historian, he put forth his witty and profound insight into that terrible period of history, challenging some commonly accepted notions of Nazi Germany and discussing the implications of the era on history and the modern world.

He also offered his advice on what makes a good historian and a good history student. The great challenge, he says, is an environment in which the "notes of the lecturer are transferred to the notes of the student without passing through the minds of either", encouraging us to constantly question and to think deeply about our studies. Perhaps Hilary is right and history isn't just a bunch of dates and facts after all.

Karl I (Yr 12 student)

CONGRATULATIONS – CHANNEL SWIM



Teenager Ben F (Yr 12 student) has become the first Canberran and the third-youngest Australian to swim the English Channel.

The 17-year-old completed the 32-kilometre journey from England to France in nine hours and 10 minutes when he arrived in the French city of Calais on Monday.

Freeman had his mother and her three sisters beside him the entire way on the support boat, Anastasia.

His coach, Les Barclay, told the ABC that Freeman was an inspiration to other swimmers at the Queanbeyan-Telopea club.

"He is a determined young man who has a real passion for distance swimming, he took this upon himself without any due pressure, he lives for distance swimming," he said.

"He is an inspiration to the younger generation not just in his own club but the whole swimming fraternity. He gets out and motivates them.

"Ben is a leader, very highly motivated, leads by example, and he is only ever too willing to share his experiences and motivate the young athletes.

"At the same time he is a very studious athlete who balances life and his studies and his swimming commitment to a tee. I think he is very high achiever at school."

To get used to the conditions, Freeman packed on 15kg and swam between 60km and 100km a week for the past nine months.

He has used the chilly Canberra winter to his advantage, swimming in the 12-degree water temperatures at the outdoor pool at the Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre to simulate the 16-degree temperatures in the English Channel.

Freeman was well under the average crossing time of 13 and a half hours.

More people have climbed Mount Everest than have swum the English Channel since it was first achieved in 1875.

LIBRARY NEWS

Just a reminder that books lent for Session 2 and books lent for Sessions 1 and 2 are due back no later than September 4. Books lent for Session 1 only should already have been returned. The Narrabundah College library will remain open for student access and study during the entire examination and assessment period.

Overdue notices were distributed during last week's N-Groups.

One library printer is now available for colour printing. We remind students that colour printing costs 30 cents per page and that normal (black and white) printing costs 10 cents per page. To print in colour students must select colour from the preferences tab prior to printing and then choose colour. When printing in colour the print software will charge 30 cents per page for the entire print run even if some or most pages are in black and white. The library staff suggests that students print their black and white pages first and then change to colour to print only the pages that are in colour, this will save unnecessary high printing costs.

Some new resources for your perusal:-

12 Years a Slave, a True Story: Northup, Solomon

Lan Turing - The Enigma: Hodges, Andrew

Americanah: Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi

Arthur Boyd: Agony & Ecstasy: Hart, Deborah

The Australian Women's Weekly Fashion: the first 50 years: Thomas, Deborah, Clements, Kirstie

Australians at Home, World War II: McKernan, Michael

Bipolar Disorder for Dummies: Fink, Candida; Kraynak, Joe

Chemistry for the IB Diploma: Neuss Geoff

Cindy Sherman: Moorhouse, Paul

Developmental Psychology: Ludlow, Amanda; Gutierrez, Roberto

Environmental Systems and Societies: Course Companion: Rutherford, Jill, Williams, Gillian

Family Violence, Legal, Medical and Social Perspectives: Wallace, Harvey; Roberson, Cliff

Guarding Eden, Champions of Climate Action: Hart, Deborah

Hold Me Closer, the Tiny Cooper Story, a Musical Novel: Levithan, David

Indonesia Etc., Exploring the Improbable Nation: Pisani, Elizabeth

Only the Animal: Dovey, Ceridwen

Photographic Guide to Native Plants of the Australian Capital Territory: Cosgrove, Meredith

Surrealism: 50 Works of Art You Should Know: Finger, Brad

Tutu, Authorized: Sparks, Allister

Unable to attend Presentation Night?

If you are unable to attend Presentation Night Wednesday, 16 December commencing 5.00pm, then you may:

- collect your Certificate from Reception at the college:
Thursday 17 December 2015 9.00am – 3.00pm
Friday 18 December 2015 9.00am – 12noon
 and from
Monday 18 January 2016 9.00am – 3.00pm
- arrange for another person to collect your Certificate for you, but you must give them a signed letter authorizing them to do so.
- for postage in Australia – purchase a **\$6.20 prepaid registered B4 envelope** from a post office.

For postage overseas – purchase a \$22.90 prepaid registered B4 envelope from a post office. (Write student's name, address on both sides of prepaid B4 registered envelope. Place envelope in the box in Delisia Wiild's room in Student Adviser's area.) Please note: You must fill in the Lodgement Slip receipt with student's own address and details and we will post on your behalf.

International Private Students (IPS) will have their certificates posted by the International Section in the ACT Department of Education

Please note: Certificates are not available before Presentation Night

A Message from the Minister

During Public Education Week this year, I launched the Canberra Public Schools web portal. <http://www.det.act.gov.au/canberra-public-schools>

The *Canberra Public Schools* webpage is a 'one-stop shop' for you to find information specifically about Canberra public schools. The webpage has a fresh look and feel, and contains important information, feature articles and useful links. It also has a search function for you to search for schools by geographic area, details on curriculum, programs and student enrolment. The page also links to useful information including school websites, holiday and school term information, ACTION Buses and SunSmart.

The *Canberra Public Schools* webpage is also links to the '[Parents and Students at the Centre](#)', '[Trending #successtories](#)', and '[Public School Alumni](#)' pages. These pages contain stories and articles about the achievements our schools, teachers, principals, alumni and students.

I encourage you to explore the new webpage, and let us know your thoughts. Please email DET.Media@act.gov.au with your feedback. As you know, Canberra public schools are fantastic and students deserve to have their successes shared.

Kind regards
 Joy Burch, Minister for Education and Training



Invitation to Year 12s leaving at the end of Session 2

**Narrabundah College
 Presentation Night
 Wednesday, 16 December 2015
 5:00 – 7:30pm in the Gym**

Student.....
 (Given name - please print) (Surname - please print)

Will you be present to receive your certificate?

Yes No

I have invited:

Guest:
 (please print name)

Guest:
 (please print name)

RSVP: Please return this form to Reception by no later than Friday, 4 December 2015.

Please Note: Graduating Year 12s will not be reserved a seat without an RSVP

If you have any enquiries please contact Reception on 6142 3200

EXCURSION ACQUITTALS

Sydney **Geography** Excursion - June 2015

Income	\$3610.00
Total expenses	3522.72
Surplus	\$ 87.28

Sydney **Media** Excursion - June 2015

Income	\$5850.00
Total expenses	5850.00
Surplus/Deficit	nil

Behavioural Sciences – 29 – 30 June 2015

Income	\$7030.00
Total expenses	7206.02
Deficit	\$ 176.02

Senior First Aid (1st course) - 1 July 2015

Income	\$1995.00
Total expenses	1995.00
Surplus/Deficit	nil

Senior First Aid (2nd course)– 22 July 2015

Income	\$2310.00
Total expenses	2310.00
Surplus/Deficit	nil

The Wolfpack – Palace Theatre 31 July 2015

Income	\$343.64
Total expenses	343.64
Surplus/Deficit	nil

Demolition of 'Mr Fluffy' affected Homes

The ACT Government, with the support of experienced licensed asbestos removalists, licensed asbestos assessors and demolition contractors, with oversight from WorkSafe ACT and ACT Environment Protection Authority, have begun the process to safely demolish houses affected by 'Mr Fluffy' loose fill asbestos over the next few years.

Some of these homes are located in the same suburb as schools.

Parents and Carers who may wish to know more about the demolition process can access information from the Asbestos Response Taskforce website:
www.asbestostaskforce.act.gov.au



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Important Dates

27-31 Aug	Test Days 1 to 3
Yr 12s	Yr 12s
1 Sep	AST – Day 1 8.50 – 3.30pm Multiple Choice and Short Answer Test
2 Sep	AST – Day 2 8.50am –12.00pm Writing Task
Yr 11s	
1 Sep	Yr 11 and Yr12 non AST (tests)
2 Sep	Yr 11 and Yr12 non AST (tests)
3 – 4 Sep	Test Days 4 and 5
7-10	Assessment Week (excursion & student free)
7-11	Work Experience and Vocational Training
9-10 Sep	Road Ready Training
11 Sep	Unit scores displayed
14 Sep	Session 3 commences Feedback Morning – all students to attend Normal classes commence
16 Sep	Session 2 Reports issued
18 Sep	Appeals close for Session 2 unit scores
21 Sep	Yr11 Work Experience and Vocational Placement applications open
23 Sep	11.20-1.00pm – College charity walk to lake
24 Sep	5.00-6.00pm IB Information Meeting for current Yr 11 parents
25 Sep	Sep Newsletter posted
26 Sep – 11 Oct	School Holidays

INTERNET BANKING - DIRECT PAYMENT

There is a 'Payment' option on the school website (www.narrabundahc.act.edu.au) – Westpac Quickweb. Go to: **contact us, Payment.** Please identify your payment by including the student's name.

Reception Cash Register Times:

8.45am – 2.00pm

NARRABUNDAH COLLEGE:

Reception: 614 23200



Event: College Charity walk to the lake

Date, time: Wednesday 23 September, 11.20am – 1.00pm

Transport: walk (no skateboards)

Cost: Gold coin donation to the Charity "Canteen" for entry

2015 Parent Information Evenings, Parent Teacher afternoons & other evenings

24 Sep	5.00-6.00pm IB Information Meeting for current Yr11 Parents
5 Nov	6.30pm P&C Trivia Night (only adults over 18)
12 Nov	6.30-7.30pm Fashion Parade in Theatre
17 Nov	5.00-7.00pm Visual Arts Exhibition (A&F Block) accompanied by music students 7.00-8.00pm Dance Concert
16 Dec	5.00-7.30pm Presentation Night in the gym

Newsletter of Narrabundah College

If undelivered return to



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KINGSTON ACT 2604

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