On December 3rd, all the Year 8’s participated in Stress Free Day. This day was full of fun activities, aimed on helping the students to forget of all the stress of school and just have fun for a day. There was a wide range in activities that students participated in. Some of these were movies, reading, swimming at the Lara Pool, sport, Muay Thai, jewellery making and whole lot more. I participated in the movies, which was just watching a movie in the classroom, cooking, jewellery making and reading in the library. Zachary sharp from 8 Orange said, “That Stress Free Day was good” and Cassie Baker, who is also from 8 Orange said “That Stress Free Day was fun and enjoyable”. I had a lot of fun in all my sessions and I bet that all the other Year 8’s would say the same.

Jena C 8 Orange
MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

CONGRATULATIONS

- Drama students in Years 10 – 12 who were outstanding in their SHORTCUTS performances at the Courthouse last week.
- Joey K and Hannah T whose films were shown with other super star quality Senior media student films at Trent Edwards Odyssey at the Village theatre last week. Joey was the winner of the audience favourite
- Sarah W - Victorian representative Lawn Bowls champion. (Did you see the article in the Geelong Advertiser on Wednesday?)

This will be our final newsletter for 2013 and I would like to congratulate our hard working staff for their dedication and enthusiasm which has ensured constant improvement in our processes, programs and student learning results.

Both our Education Support staff and our teaching staff are extremely dedicated and this has been reflected in opinion surveys from teachers, students and parents throughout the year. This year in particular I have been extremely impressed with increasingly high expectations of our staff to ensure that students are achieving high standards in all aspects of their work and in their attitude and understanding of their learning.

As the year comes to an end we farewell some of our original team members from 2003 and beyond:
Anne Harvey was employed in 2003 as a Leading teacher in ICT. Anne moved into leading the Senior Years team and has been leading almost everything else in the school. Anne is a natural leader and motivator and has been an enormous driving force for change in our school.
We also wish Margaret Harbridge - employed in our first year - farewell and all the best for her retirement. Marg began with us in 2003 as our foods/fabrics teacher. Marg set up our kitchens and fabrics room and nurtured our students for over a decade in both of these subject areas which are close to her heart.
Jordan Smith came to us from teaching in the UK in 2010 and has been a driving force in implementing our very strong structure in the Middle Years. Jordan’s flexibility in working in sports leadership, Literacy Leadership and in Middle Years leadership is a credit to him. We wish him the very best for his new Leadership position in Benella.
Hera Tjandra will be leaving to support her family and Kacey Ambrus, Adriana Gibbons and Natali Alic will be taking family leave to start or extend their families. We wish these very dedicated and hard working teachers the very best for 2014 and beyond.

As the year comes to a close for students we begin our preparations for 2014. We will welcome a new Assistant Principal to Middle Years, as Glenda Ward has taken leave and will return in term two to her passion of teaching English. We also welcome three new teaching staff who will be introduced to you at the start of our new year.

I will include important information for 2014 in a letter enclosed with reports which will be posted home next week.

I wish all families a happy holiday and relaxing break.

Lyn Boyle - Principal
boyle.lyn.c@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**college calendar**

**2014**

- **Tuesday 17th December** - Awards Day
- **Friday 20th December** - School Closed
- **Wednesday 29th January** - Year 7, Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 Start
- **Thursday 30th January** - Year 8, Year 9 Start
- **Wednesday 12th February** - School Photos
- **Wednesday 19th February** - Year 7 Camp
- **Monday 21st February** - House Swimming Carnival

**Term Dates for 2014**

- Term 1 - 29th January to 4th April
- Term 2 - 22nd April to 27th June
- Term 3 - 14th July to 19th September
- Term 4 - 6th October to 19th December

**Immunisation Dates for 2014**

- First Visit — Monday 31st of March
- Secondary Visit — Tuesday 17th of June
- Third Visit — November TBC

**Lost Property**

There are a number of unclaimed items of uniform and personal property at the school. Students and parents wishing to claim items can do so before and after school on Monday December 16th and Tuesday December 17th. After this date any remaining unclaimed items will be washed and donated to the Salvation Army.
On December the 5th and 6th Lara Secondary College students and staff celebrated Disability Awareness Week. This event allowed us to promote our understanding of disabilities and ensure that students and staff were informed of the everyday struggles and barriers associated with having a disability.

As part of the day there were activities everyone could participate in, and display boards were set up with information regarding disabilities.

This event was a huge success and I will be working towards making it an annual event each year.

Thank you to the Integration Team for making this event possible.

Sally Wilks
Integration Coordinator
When can I find out my ATAR? ATAR results are released on Monday 16 December 2013 at 7am (AEDST). You can receive your ATAR results in three ways:

1. Register for SMS notification. You can opt to receive an SMS on the morning that results are released. Instructions are on VTAC’s [webpage](#).
2. Log on to resultsandatar.vic.edu.au from 7am on the morning results are released.
3. Wait for your results to arrive in the mail on Tuesday 17 or Wednesday 18 December. Only VTAC applicants who have paid all processing fees will receive a statement in the mail. To access your results online, you will need your VCAA student number and PIN. If you have registered with VTAC or are a current VTAC applicant you will need to use your VTAC PIN, if you are not a VTAC registrant your PIN is the first four digits of your date of birth e.g. 21 November = 2111.

**Post Results and ATAR Service**

You cannot access your results through the Post Results and ATAR Service. However, if you have questions after receiving your results and ATAR, you can post your question here on this blog. If you would rather speak to a person, you can call the Post Results and ATAR Service team on: (03) 9032 1717 (metropolitan callers) or 1800 653 080 (free call) or just send an email to pras@edumail.vic.gov.au. The service will be operational on:

- **Monday 16 December 2013** from 7.00am to 5.00pm
- **Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 December** from 9.00am to 5.00pm

**What is the ATAR?** It is the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank, which measures a student’s overall performance in their VCE studies. It is designed to assist tertiary institutions when making course selections. The ATAR is created by VTAC, using the study scores from a student’s successful completion of the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) which is administered by the VCAA (Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority). VTAC applies a process of scaling to each study score, in order to convert it into an ATAR. Students who have a minimum of four study scores (including one of English, EAL, English Language or Literature) plus at least three other VCE studies in a permissible combination are eligible to receive an ATAR. The studies that can be used for the ATAR are:

- All VCE Unit 3 and 4 sequences
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Programs with Unit 3 and 4 sequences
- Approved Higher Education studies

The ABC of Scaling brochure explains in further detail how studies contribute toward an ATAR and how the ATAR is used in course selection.

**VTAC Live Chat for students and parents.**

VTAC staff will be available in real time to answer questions and assist students and parents from 1pm on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 December.

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**Work Experience Thanks 2013**

*Our sincere gratitude to the following businesses for offering work experience to Lara Secondary College students in 2013.*

Many places have hosted students more than once; your time, effort and patience are much appreciated. The Work Experience Program, which provides students with such a valuable opportunity to explore future pathways, is only possible through your continuing good will.

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**Automotive**

- Green & Kelly - Lara
- Klos Custom Trucks - Lara
- JM Autotech - Lara
- Geelong Transport Repairs – Geelong
- Mobelec Services - Batesford
- Smiths of Geelong
- Theos Driveline & Mechanical Repairs – North Shore
- Ashley Auto Wrecking - Breakwater
- Ferg’s Garage – Bellbrae

**Health & Community Services**

- Barwon Health
- Leopold Lodge
- St Laurence STAR - Geelong
- St Laurence Costa House – Lara
- Salvation Army – Corio
- St Laurence Aged Care - Belmont
- Glastonbury – Geelong
- Magistrates Court - Dept of Justice - Geelong
- Salvation Army
- St Laurence STAR
- Leopold Lodge
- Barwon Health
- Ferg’s Garage
- Timmins Automotive
- Jack & Jill restaurant
- Theos Driveline & Mechanical Repairs
- Ashley Auto Wrecking
- Ferg’s Garage
- Mobelec Services
- Green & Kelly
- Klos Custom Trucks
- JM Autotech
- Geelong Transport Repairs
- Mobelec Services - Batesford
- Smiths of Geelong
- Theos Driveline & Mechanical Repairs – North Shore
- Ashley Auto Wrecking - Breakwater
- Ferg’s Garage – Bellbrae

**Education and Childcare**

- Lara PS
- Buckingham St Childcare – Lara
- Milla Milla Kindergarten - Geelong
- Northern Bay Early Learners - Corio
- Swan Childcare - Corio
- Warringa Park School – Hoppers Crossing
- Lethbridge PS – Lethbridge

**Performing Arts**

- 24.GPAC – Geelong

**Hair & Beauty**

- Salon Jenaire - Geelong
- Body Pleasure Piercing – Geelong
- Creative Futures Salon – The Gordon
- TMK Beauty & Skin Care – Bannockburn

**IT**

- Digital Documents – Geelong
- Geelong Technology Group

**Hospitality**

- Rods Bakery – Lara
- Bayside - Geelong
- Mercure – Geelong
- Jack & Jill restaurant – Geelong
Trade
River Plumbing - Lara
Don Wilks Electrical – Lara
ARM Roofing - Lara
Decks Plus – Lara
True Blue Roofing – Lara
Andrew Russell Painting &Rendering – Lara
DAH Plumbing & Gasfitting – Lara
Darren Wilson Building Services – Lara
Rohan Rees Plumbing – Lara
Kardinia Picture Framing - Geelong
Access Chainmesh Fencing – Lt River
Sams Joinery - North Geelong
Signific - Newtown
Kinetic Engineering - Bell Park
Insulpak – Corio
Kane Lewis Plumbing – Belmont
AVJ Kitchens & Joinery – Laverton
Western Industrial Plumbing - Laverton
The Plumbing Company – Laverton
JMK Electrics - Werribee
KONE Elevators – Port Melbourne

Animals
Vicki Gee – Harry’s Farm - Lara
Saddle On - Lovely Banks
Geelong Animal Welfare (GAWS) – Moolap
Best Friends Pet Super Centre
Petstock – Corio

Horticulture
COGG – Geelong Parks & Gardens

Retail
Country Link Rural Supplies – Lara
Angus & Coote Jewellers - Corio
Priceline Chemists – Corio
Grogans Chemmart - Corio
Specsavers – Waum Ponds
Pearls & Roses Bridal – Geelong
JB Hi Fi Geelong
AM Retail Services - Yarraville

Sport & Recreation
Waterworld – Norlane
Rockets Gym – Lara

Summer Reading: VCE English and Literature Texts for 2014

To ensure 2014 Year 11 and 12 English and Literature students complete their compulsory Holiday Homework in plenty of time, it is recommended that they purchase the necessary novels, plays, textbook etc. as soon as possible. Students are expected to have read these texts by the beginning of term one next year.

The texts are available on the College’s online booklist and many can also be purchased from shops such as Landmark or Hedleys in Geelong or using online stores such as Book Depository (free delivery).

Please contact your student’s 2014 English teacher if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Monica Sherry
Literacy Leader