### College Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23/04</td>
<td>Yr 11 ODE/VCAL camp depart 9am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/04</td>
<td>Yr 11 ODE/VCAL return 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 11.40am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/04</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/04</td>
<td>Yr 12 VCAL Literature ACMI excursion 8.30 - 3.20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 10 PE Indoor Sports at Vic Beach 8.30 - 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 10 ODE Orienteering at You Yangs 12 - 1.50pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Top Designs excursion to Melbourne Museum 8.45 - 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 9 Sport/ Flexi Program Boxing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27/04</td>
<td>Yr 11/12 VCAL Scavenger Hunt 9 - 3.20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 10 WWW Lyondell Basal Plant excursion 9.30 - 12pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/05</td>
<td>VCAL PE excursion to Riki Martial Arts Studio 12 - 1.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barwon Prison excursion 12.30 - 3.20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/05</td>
<td>Yr 12 ODE/ES Camp to Falls Creek depart 6.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/05</td>
<td>Bellarine Division Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04/05</td>
<td>VCAL Literacy Geelong excursion 9 - 3.20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indonesian Speaking Competition 9 - 3.20pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to term 2! We have had a very smooth start to the term in absolutely glorious Victorian autumn weather. (I am sure Lyn will be hopping onto our website in Umbria to read this newsletter and I hear the weather has not been the best.) Parent-teacher interviews have just been held and this gives parents, teachers and students an opportunity to set both short and long term goals and start acting on these straight away.

Students committed to excellence

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge a number of students who have shown endeavour, talent and commitment in a range of fields.

Chelsea

The whole school joins me in congratulating Chelsea R on her recent success at the Victorian State Swimming Titles. Chelsea medalled in the four events in which she participated, winning gold in the Girls’ 16 years 50 metre breaststroke and silver in the Girls’ Open 100 metre breaststroke, Girls’ 16 years 50 metre butterfly and Girls’ 16 years 50 metres backstroke. An outstanding performance.

Isaiah

As we have previously mentioned Isaiah from Year 10 was among 125 students from around Australia who travelled to Canberra from 21 to 23 March to participate in the National Schools Constitutional Convention. A ‘press release’ from Isaiah is included later in the newsletter outlining decisions that the convention made.

LYA have kept on showing a huge commitment to young people in Lara, and their fame is spreading even further! LYA members were involved in activities at the waterfront in Geelong on the last Sunday of the holidays to celebrate National Youth Week. LYA staffed the famous Jelly Wrestling event. Word of this event has spread far and wide as is evidenced by this amazing photograph that highlights how the internet is indeed making the world a global village.

Glenda Ward - Acting Principal
ward.glenda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS REPORT

As the Easter Holidays quickly become a distant memory I feel this is a good opportunity to reflect on what is happening within our Senior School Program. For our VCE students you will find that exams and the GAT for students studying Year 12 subjects will be quickly coming up on us, it is important that you read the article with excellent advice that Rohan Donnelly has provided in this College Times concerning students in their last years of secondary schooling.

Within VCAL students are working hard on preparing their major fundraising project for their entry into the Energy Breakthrough competition to be held in Maryborough later this year. They are organising a sporting celebration day that will be held on the 18th of May, the students are planning a wide range of fun activities for all the school to enjoy and it should be a fantastic day that is not to be missed.

Finally, I would like to invite parents and families to our special ANZAC day assembly on the 24th April. This is being organised by the SRC and Senior VCAL students. It is a great opportunity to come and visit the school and also pay our respects and remember Australians who served and died in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. The Assembly will begin at 11:40 in the middle years centre, for more information please feel free to contact me at school.

Damian Marra
Acting Assistant Principal
marra.damian.p@edumail.vic.gov.au
Senior English Study Sessions

As part of Lara Secondary College’s commitment to providing our students with every opportunity to succeed in Senior English, we hold weekly Study Sessions on Wednesdays from 3:30pm to 4:30pm in the College library.

Staffed by Senior English teachers, these sessions provide students with an opportunity for extra discussion and assistance. During a Study Session students can discuss class work with a teacher and peers, complete homework and prepare for assessment tasks, SACs and exams. Students may attend Study Sessions every week, as needed or when recommended by their English teacher.

Brett Lee Presents...

Digital Life Skills
Keeping our Youth Safe Online

PARENT INFORMATION
EVENING

About Brett:
Worked as a Queensland Police Officer for 22 years.

This includes 16 years as a Detective in Child Exploitation.

Brett specialised in undercover internet child exploitation investigations

BRETT WILL COVER:
• Cleaning up your digital footprint
• Protecting your information and photographs
• Recognising and protecting yourself against online dangers
• Online friend, contact or stranger?

Location: Lara Secondary College
Date: Thursday 10th May
Time: 7pm in Room 311
ALL WELCOME

Former Detective Brett Lee helping us to keep safe online

The Internet is an incredibly rich resource, and one that has many positive educational and social benefits for young people. Unfortunately, we know that there are risks associated with being online (this includes cyber bullying, predators, graphic content and having a digital profile that may be detrimental to future employment and other opportunities).

Young people today are spending more time online than ever before. The report ‘Internet use and social networking by young people’ which was commissioned by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and published in 2007 found that:

Young people spent an average one hour and 17 minutes per day online Internet use was highest among young people in the older age groups, ranging from 30 minutes for 8–11 year olds to more than two hours for 15–17 year olds

Social networking and other related online communication activities comprised 64 per cent of young people’s total Internet time
Seventy-two per cent of 14–17 year old girls and 52 per cent of boys in this age group had their own online profile.

It is our job as educators and parents to support young people to make good decisions when using the Internet. To help students at Lara Secondary College make informed choices about their online behaviour we are happy to have enlisted the help of Brett Lee from INESS (Internet Education and Safety Services).

Brett worked as a Queensland Police Officer for 22 years, and 16 of those were as a Detective, predominantly in the field of Child Exploitation. In his last five years of service, he was a specialist in the field of undercover Internet child exploitation investigations.

In 2001, in his role as a Detective, Brett delivered an Internet safety presentation to students. It was then that he realised the key to protecting our children from online dangers was education. Brett has since delivered presentations around Australia and the world.

On Thursday 10th May Brett will be visiting the school and running a series of workshops throughout the day. He will be working with the Year 7 and 8 students in Session 2, the Year 9 and 10 students in session 3 and the Year 11 and 12 students in session 4. Brett will also be presenting to staff in our meeting after school.

Along with these presentations we are delighted to invite all parents to attend the evening session that is being held specifically for parents from Lara Secondary College, along with parents from Lara Primary School and Lara Lake Primary School. The evening will begin at 7pm and will be held in Room 311. This is an excellent opportunity to hear someone of Brett’s experience discuss how we can become more vigilant concerning online dangers and support our children in their Internet use.

Brett’s cyber safety presentation covers:
• Who you may be sharing your information with
• Dangers that may be associated with improper use
• How to treat online contacts—As strangers or friends
• Protecting information and photographs
• What to do if something is of concern to you on the Internet
• How to keep you, your family and the information on your computer safe
• The Internet is a great tool if used properly and responsibly
• Cleaning up your digital footprint
Open Access to the Internet at Lara Secondary College

At the end of Term One, the eLearning Team along with the Curriculum team and School Council, approved a change to the way students access the internet at school. This change is a move away from internet filters to a situation where students have open access to the internet.

One of the reasons for this change centres around the effectiveness of internet filters. Over the past few years the school has used filters with a positive aim in mind. That aim was to protect our students from inappropriate content and to help them avoid distractions. However, the effectiveness of filters in doing either of these things has been hotly debated in educational settings for a number of years.

Issues surround the use of filters includes:

- **They may not work very well.**
  
  With the web changing on a daily basis it is impossible to keep up with discovering and monitoring the websites that are desirable to block. It is still possible to find images that may be considered disturbing while filters are on.

- **They often block useful content.**
  
  Filters have a pattern of limiting sites that could be very useful to teachers and students. Software programs determine what is appropriate and inappropriate to view so human judgement is virtually removed from this process.

- **Students can still access ‘blocked’ sites.**
  
  Sometimes by using filters schools get an opposite effect than they expect. Students find it a challenge to find blocked sites.

- **There are better ways to protect our students.**
  
  Teachers can create a situation where students have monitored access to the Internet. Providing suggested sites and monitoring students when they are on the Internet are examples of this.

- **Students can and need to learn to filter for themselves.**
  
  Adults can assist children in defining their values in regards to what is appropriate and what is not appropriate on the Internet. By working with students, we can assist them in developing an effective approach to the Internet.

Some of the above issues (namely point number 2) cause a great deal of frustration for teachers and students alike when trying to use ICT in the classroom.

Having open access to the Internet brings some responsibilities for the students that they need to be aware of. Students are to only access content and websites that:

- They are directed to by their teachers; or
- Are directly related to what they are studying at the time (if they are completing a research project for example)

Even though the students have open access, teaching staff will be able to very closely monitor what they are doing online. With help from the technical support staff, teachers can be provided with a very detailed outline of students’ Internet history. Teachers can request this information at any time, including during a class for immediate feedback and action. In addition all staff have access to a software program called Net Control 2. Net Control 2 allows teachers to view the desktop of any student in their class, in real time on their own computer screen.

We believe that student misbehaviour online should be treated in exactly the same way as we would treat poor decision making in ‘real life’. As with any of our agreements and routines, students who make poor decisions online will be given a chance to ‘fix up’ their behaviour. If poor decision-making becomes a pattern for a particular student their right to access and use ICT in the classroom will be removed.

The Acceptable Use Policy has been updated to include the following:

Students who are accessing inappropriate content online will be taken through the following process:

- **Offence #1 – Warning.** All teachers and Program Leader notified. Parents contacted.
- **Offence #2 – Computer/ device confiscated and all access to ICT withdrawn.** Student needs to go through the restorative process and have a parent meeting before their access is restored. TLC/ Pathways teachers, Program Leaders and Clive will support this process.

If you would like to ask any further questions about the move to open Internet access please contact your child’s Year Level Program Leader or myself directly. You can contact me on 52828988 or via email: foley.sarah.k@edumail.vic.gov.au

---

Gateway Youth Club

**Time & Date:** 1.00pm-3.00pm Saturday 21st April 2012

**Venue:** You Yangs at Valley Picnic Area

For further information or if transportation is required please call: Ellie Griffin on 0402220408

---

St. Anthony’s Primary School Lara

**2012 Debutante Ball**

Our annual St Anthony’s Debutante Ball is nearing and we have a few positions available. Rehearsals will be conducted weekly over eight weeks and will be held at the St. Anthony’s Primary School Mackillop Hall Lara on Monday evenings commencing May 28th.

The Debutante Ball will be held on Saturday August 4th at Capri Receptions North Geelong. We have an excellent reputation for providing a tremendous night for all guests.

Girls in Year 11 and wanting to make their debut this year are invited to contact Kathryn on 0439304440. Information can then be sent to you for your consideration.

Kathryn Andrews
St Anthony’s Debutante Ball Committee Coordinator
Advice for Parents Supporting Students through their Last Years of Secondary Schooling

These are important years of their lives and you want them to be the best they can be and to achieve and succeed as you know they can.

What can parents do to help?
- Keep the year in perspective;
- Try to be realistic with expectations;
- Encourage self-belief and give lots of positive encouraging feedback;
- Be available to listen and talk through things when they need to;
- Have realistic expectations about the amount of household chores that are expected;
- Try not to compare them or their marks to others;
- Keep an eye on both their physical and emotional health and seek help if needed;
- Encourage them to get lots of sleep;
- Provide a suitable place for study that is quiet and free from distractions;
- Encourage uninterrupted homework/study time by offering to answer the phone and take messages during this time;
- Discuss what sort of help is needed from you. For example, whether it would be beneficial for you to read the texts to assist with informal discussion.

MONITORING YOUR CHILD’S MENTAL HEALTH

Parents often worry about their children when they know they are going through a difficult period of their life. Usually the child is experiencing the normal emotional upheaval we all may do when something sad or bad happens to us. Generally parents can help them by being there, encouraging them to talk, listening to their story, acknowledging their pain, and offering advice. However, sometimes behavior is really much worse than the reactions we normally experience and instead are more indicative of some sort of mental health problem.

What behaviour should concern parents?
- Difficulty in concentrating
- Inability to make decisions
- Negative thinking
- Loss of interest in pleasurable activities eg music, sport, talking on the phone
- Withdrawal from family, friends and social activities
- Emotional flatness or odd ideas
- Anxiety or fear
- Extreme sadness or mood swings
- Irritability or anger
- Changes in eating/sleeping patterns
- Chronic aches and pains
- Loss of energy
- Suspiciousness
- Changes in perceptions of self, others or the world in general

Parents who have concerns regarding their child’s mental health should seek assistance. With proper treatment, mental health problems can get better and research shows that the earlier help is sought, the better the chance of a quick and complete recovery.

The person involved often cannot see how unwell they are and will not seek help. It is therefore important that concerned parents find out what is available on their behalf. This is not a betrayal of trust but a responsible action on the part of the parent who is concerned about the emotional wellness of someone they love.

Parents who are worried should speak to a person they trust eg a doctor, school nurse, teacher, counsellor, parent, church leader. They will be able to help assess the situation and if need be get some specialist assistance. A General Practitioner can help set up a Mental Health Plan which subsidises the fees for the child to be seen by a private psychologist.

Local Services available
Barwon Health Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
15 Pakington Street, Geelong West.  Intake BH: 5226 7075  AH: 1300 094 187
For assessment and treatment of children up to 15 yrs of age with complex mental health problems.
It includes:
Paediatric and Adolescent Support Service (PASS) which provides psychological support for children who have chronic physical illness.
Families where a Parent has a mental illness (FaPMI) Ph: 5222 6911

Headspace Barwon - www.headspace.org.au/barwon
Mental Health support and information for young people (12 – 25 yrs) and their families.
Barwon City - Old Geelong Post Office - 5222 6690
Barwon Corio - Corio Shopping Centre – 5279 2754
www.eheadspace.org.au – online/telephone support

Jigsaw Youth Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Service
Enquiries: 5246 8216   AH: 1300 094 187
Assessment and case management of young people aged 12 – 25 years who has, or is at risk of developing, severe mental illness.

Information updated September 2011- Regional Parenting Service Geelong
UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST (UMAT) – Registrations open in early April (see www.umat.acer.edu.au). Registration deadline is Fri 1 June; the test date is Wed 25 July, 2012. Reminder: This test is used as part of the selection process for students applying for Monash University medicine, pharmacy/commerce and physiotherapy (and for many interstate degrees).

So You Want to be a Doctor?
Thinking of applying for an undergraduate medicine course after year 12?
Are you planning a science/biomedicine degree followed by post graduate study in medicine?
You will need to know as much as you can about:
- CSP, bonded, full fee, international study options
- Local, interstate and overseas options
- Application procedures and how they vary
- Different application timelines for different courses
- UMAT / GAMSAT
- What to expect in an interview…… and much more

Don’t miss the free Medical Information Evening
Deakin University - Waterfront Campus
7:00 pm, Wednesday May 9, 2012
Percy Baxter Lecture Theatre
Proudly sponsored by Geelong Careers Teachers Association and Deakin University.

RMIT NEWS – RMIT provides higher and vocational education to more than 70,000 students in Australia and overseas. RMIT offers degrees, double degrees, associate degrees, dual awards, advanced diplomas, diplomas, apprenticeships and traineeships, providing pathways so that students can easily move between TAFE and university courses.

What about a career in Construction or Project Management, Property or Valuation?
RMIT offers the Bachelor of Applied Science (Construction Management), a degree which trains construction managers, quantity surveyors, building managers and builders.
The B. App. Sci. (Project Management) which trains project managers in building, IT, finance and general business
The B. App. Sci (Property) which trains property investment and management, consultancy and property finance
The B. App. Sci. (Valuation) which trains in valuation, property investment and management, consultancy and property finance
(NOTE: All the above degrees have a common first year and involve supervised work in industry).
These degrees are accredited world-wide and are accredited by professional bodies like PMI, API.
Work-related learning involved produces industry-ready graduates who gain employment experience in industry, and preferential access to key industry employers (see: www.rmit.edu.au/propertyconstruction/employerchoice). International study tours are available and many students go on exchange to overseas universities as part of their degree.

New Bachelor of Engineering (Electronic Product Design) degree for RMIT in 2012 – This degree includes aspects of industrial design, electronics, and computer systems. Artistic design flair is needed for this course, and there will be some studio-based subjects in graphic design. Employment will be in manufacturing and innovation and in product design and development.

New double degrees at RMIT: Double degrees are a great way to study a broader range of subjects, and to get further qualifications in a shorter time. New for 2013 at RMIT are:
- Chemical engineering and pharmaceutical sciences
- Food technology and management
- Biotechnology and biomedical science
- Aviation and management
- Mechanical engineering and management
- Mechanical engineering and industrial design
- Engineering (Advanced manufacturing and mechanical) and international business.

What about Medical Sciences at RMIT? RMIT offers a range of medical science programs:
- Biomedical science
- Exercise and sports science
- Laboratory science
- Medical radiations
- Pharmaceutical sciences
- Pharmacy
- Physical education

UNIVERSITY OF BALLARAT NEW COURSES FOR 2013 -
The Bachelor of Mathematical Science (Health Analytics) aims to address a shortage of graduates with data analysis skills in the niche health services sector. Students will gain strong industry links, and hands-on experience in practical placements with health care providers during their studies, giving them the edge when looking for jobs in a range of health services.

The Bachelor of Aviation Management is designed to meet the growing need by airlines for pilots to have tertiary qualifications in addition to a commercial pilot license. Although it is not essential for pilots to have qualifications in IT or Management, preference tends to be given to applicants who hold a tertiary qualification. The program has a strong practical focus and will facilitate pilots transitioning from their flying career to management roles if they chose to do so.

PATHWAYS TO DEAKIN UNIVERSITY –
Do you know that if you miss out on a place at university you have the option of studying a diploma at Melbourne Institute of Business and Technology (MIBT)? Upon successful completion of the diploma students are eligible for a place in second year of a Deakin University-bachelor degree program (conditions apply). Deakin and MIBT have been in partnership since 1996 when the pathway program was launched. With increasing competition for university places, alternative entry pathways have become important for many students, as well as providing smaller classes and personalised support. Courses are available in commerce, computing, engineering, health sciences, management, media and communication and science.

The Gordon has important links with Deakin, with some courses commencing with a diploma at The Gordon and finishing with a Deakin degree. For example, the Bachelor of Management/Advanced Diploma of Tourism commences with a semester at The Gordon, with students gradually spending more time at Deakin to complete their degree. Students gain and advanced diploma and a degree in three years (with a bonus of paying lower fees for the TAFE part of the course). Last year’s ATAR for this course was 52.45.
CAREERS EXPO COMING SOON – Don’t forget to put the dates in your diary. For many years ‘The Age’ has run the VCE and CAREERS EXPO. There will be 190 exhibitors with VCE resources, tertiary courses and career information along with presentations on VCE subjects, tertiary courses, career and study advice. When: Thurs 3 & Fri 4 May, 9am-3pm; Sat 5 & Sun 6 May, 10am-4pm; Where: Caulfield Racecourse; Admission: $10; Info: ‘The Age’, Monday 30 April or vceandcareers.com.au.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN SPORTS MEDICINE? Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre is conducting the annual Careers in Sports Medicine Evening. Practitioners from areas such as nutrition, sports medicine, podiatry, psychology, massage, physiotherapy and exercise physiology will give short talks. When: 6.30-7pm (Registration), 7.30-9pm, (Talks), Wed 23 May; Where: AAMI Park Stadium, 60 Olympic Blvd, Entrance F, Gate 4, Corporate Entrance, Olympic Room 3; Cost: $25 per student (parent no charge); Registration: http://www.trybooking.com/BHCW.

Want to study in the USA after finishing year 12? You may be an elite level sports person who may be considered for a US sports scholarship. Listen to Carolyn Applebee from Education USA in the Cook Theatre at Geelong Grammar School on Tuesday April 24 at7.15pm. Please book a seat with GGS Careers ASAP at careers@ggs.vic.edu.au or contact Peter Craig on 52739265.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS – BACHELOR OF FINE ART - The Uni. of Melbourne plans to introduce two new specialisations into the Bachelor of Fine Art at the Southbank campus in 2013 – animation and screen writing (subject to accreditation). These will be in addition to the contemporary music, dance, film and television, music theatre, production, theatre practice and visual art programs already offered.

SCHOLARSHIPS AT MELBOURNE – If you are thinking about studying engineering at Melbourne, you might want to apply for the Paterson Scholarship of $4,000pa for the length of an appropriate undergraduate degree. Applicants will need to complete an application form and provide copies of their VCE results along with a letter addressing the selection criteria (including financial need). Browse scholarships at www.services.unimelb.edu.au/scholarships/ugrad.

DO YOU WANT TO BE AN INTERIOR DESIGNER? One question you first need to ask yourself is: do I know the difference between an interior designer and an interior decorator? An interior designer designs and supervises the construction of building interiors, so, among other things, they need an understanding of building construction. To work in this field you would usually have at least a diploma such as the Diploma of Interior Decoration and Design, offered at several TAFE Institutes, however, many interior designers have a university degree such as Interior Architecture from Monash or Interior Design from RMIT or Swinburne. Interior decorators, on the other hand, plan and implement decoration of homes, offices and so on (eg colour schemes, lighting, furniture) and would often complete the Diploma of Interior Decoration and Design. Most courses require applicants to attend an interview and folio presentation as part of the application process at the end of Year 12 (all except Interior Design at Swinburne Uni which selects onATAR). Thus, prospective applicants need to attend Open Days to find out more about the course for which they are applying, and to help them decide at which institution they prefer to study. It is also important to be able to explain at the interview why you prefer a particular institution – very difficult to answer if you have never been there! Students interested in design might also consider studying architecture, industrial design, communication or graphic design, building design (architectural), product design, fashion design or visual merchandising.

Get your Tax File Number Application Form from Nell Wilson in the Careers Room – the application is a zillion times easier than applying on the form from the Post office.

Work Experience - is optional but certainly recommended. To apply for work experience you need to:

- be aged 15+
- have completed the online safe@work certificate and have it signed by me or have completed your OH&S module
- be a VET student
- have a White Card (Construction Induction card) if you wish to work with any trade in the building industry – plastering, tiling, plumbing
- negotiate with your teachers in Yr 10 and VCAL if you are going out during the term
- do it in the holidays or after your end-of-year exams if you are in VCE above. See the VU website along with eligibility criteria and application forms. Get info on 9919 2009, daryl.comish@vu.edu.au.

BIG SCIENCE, SMALL SCIENCE (BSSS) - Is RMIT’s new way of delivering science straight to young minds through Facebook. The page is regularly updated with scientific articles, quizzes, facts, polls and events. Check it out at www.facebook.com/rmit.science.

A CAREER IN LEGAL SERVICES – Are you aware of the jobs available in the legal sector apart from becoming a solicitor or barrister? Law clerks, paralegals and legal executives may be employed by law firms, government departments, legal aid organisations, financial institutions, corporations and court registries. They perform legal work on behalf of clients under the supervision of a lawyer and can specialise in areas such as litigation, conveyancing, personal injury compensation, criminal law, family law, probate or corporate law. More about courses/careers: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/ad015. NOTE: Undergraduate law degrees can be studied at Australian Catholic (from 2013), Deakin, La Trobe, Monash and Victoria universities. Postgraduate studies in law can be taken at Melbourne and RMIT universities.

DO YOU WANT TO BE AN INTERIOR DESIGNER? One question you first need to ask yourself is: do I know the difference between an interior designer and an interior decorator? An interior designer designs and supervises the construction of building interiors, so, among other things, they need an understanding of building construction. To work in this field you would usually have at least a diploma such as the Diploma of Interior Decoration and Design, offered at several TAFE Institutes, however, many interior designers have a university degree such as Interior Architecture from Monash or Interior Design from RMIT or Swinburne. Interior decorators, on the other hand, plan and implement decoration of homes, offices and so on (e.g. colour schemes, lighting, furniture) and would often complete the Diploma of Interior Decoration and Design. Most courses require applicants to attend an interview and folio presentation as part of the application process at the end of Year 12 (all except Interior Design at Swinburne Uni which selects on ATAR). Thus, prospective applicants need to attend Open Days to find out more about the course for which they are applying, and to help them decide at which institution they prefer to study. It is also important to be able to explain at the interview why you prefer a particular institution – very difficult to answer if you have never been there! Students interested in design might also consider studying architecture, industrial design, communication or graphic design, building design (architectural), product design, fashion design or visual merchandising.

Get your Tax File Number Application Form from Nell Wilson in the Careers Room – the application is a zillion times easier than applying on the form from the Post office.

Work Experience - is optional but certainly recommended. To apply for work experience you need to:

- be aged 15+
- have completed the online safe@work certificate and have it signed by me or have completed your OH&S module
- be a VET student
- have a White Card (Construction Induction card) if you wish to work with any trade in the building industry – plastering, tiling, plumbing
- negotiate with your teachers in Yr 10 and VCAL if you are going out during the term
- do it in the holidays or after your end-of-year exams if you are in VCE
NAPLAN TESTING 2012

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2012 tests for Years 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 15 May, Wednesday 16 May and Thursday 17 May 2012. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

While the NAPLAN results are an indicator, they should not be considered as the most important or only measure of how each student is progressing. The NAPLAN is not a comprehensive assessment tool and given that it relies on a single test in each area, it is easy to see that the results could be affected by a number of factors, including a student’s ability to handle test conditions and how familiar they are with the type of language used in this form of testing.

Your child’s teachers use NAPLAN data along with VELS assessments, (Victorian Essential Learning Standards) On-demand testing (an on-line resource) and other tasks to form an accurate and detailed understanding of your child’s literacy and numeracy development. These results along with other diagnostic testing are used by the teachers and students to set Personal Learning Goals.

During test week, catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. These students may undertake catch-up tests on the days in the test week after the scheduled test, up to and including Friday 18 May 2012.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year. If your child is eligible for an exemption, you should discuss this with his/her teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from the NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child’s particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia. Please read the instructions for reading the NAPLAN results, balance the results with your child’s College reports. Please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teachers at the College if you have any concerns or questions.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAPLAN website at www.nap.edu.au.

Glenda Ward

MEDIA RELEASE

APRIL 2012

STUDENTS RECOMMEND CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

Isaiah from Lara Secondary College was one of 125 senior student delegates who recently participated in the 2012 National Schools Constitutional Convention where they explored Australia’s Constitution including the balance of powers between the Commonwealth and state governments.

The convention, held between 21 and 23 March in Canberra, was facilitated by Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO from the Australian National University.

After hearing from expert speakers as well as discussing and debating the issues, student delegates, including Isaiah, participated in mock referenda on whether the Commonwealth or the states should assume responsibility for health care and for water.

Students supported the Commonwealth assuming power over the Murray-Darling River system, but rejected the proposal for the Commonwealth to assume responsibility for health care.

‘It was great meeting other students from all around Australia who were interested in learning about our democracy,’ said Isaiah.

‘We also met politicians and attended Question Time in Parliament House.’

The convention is funded by the Australian Government as part of its ongoing commitment for civics and citizenship education.

Would $500 assist you with education costs?

You could receive up to $500 to help pay for educational costs including textbooks, computers, excursions and swimming lessons.

Saver Plus is delivered by Bethany Community Support in your local area and is looking for new participants.

You may be eligible if you or your partner:
- have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- are at least 18 years old
- have some regular income from work
- have a child at school, or attend accredited vocational training yourself

To find out more contact Amanda Vernon,
Saver Plus Worker at Bethany Community Support on 5278 8122 or avernon@bethany.org.au

email: lara.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au Web Site: www.larasc.vic.edu.au
LSC Staff Favourite Book Competition

One More Day was named as the favourite book of Mr. Bloink. Lady of Hay is Ms Day’s, Foucault’s Pendulum is Mr Donnelly’s and My Sister’s Keeper is Ms Tonkin’s favourite.

The latest prize winners were Sam B., Jennifer M., Rachael B., Jess B., Sarah S., Ms Nickou, Ms Van Noordenburg, Ms Borchard & Mr Alexander.

Lara Secondary College “Spine Crackers” Book Club

In follow up to reading “The Hunger Games” novel the Spine Crackers went and saw the movie just before the holidays. During that week some newspaper headlines had “Teen flick too scary for kids” and “It’s no game”. Each and every one of us enjoyed the movie. Here’s what 2 of the book club members had to say:

“I think the movie was really good, except that it would’ve been better if it included everything in the book” Liam B.

“The Hunger Games” is a good book and movie. It tells a story about a girl called Katniss and what struggles she has to go through. Katniss has to show courage and hope in order to survive”. Robert H.

Multiple copies of all 3 books in the series have been purchased. Come and borrow or reserve a copy.

New Arrivals

There are many new novels and non-fiction books recently processed.

**“Are pupils, parents and the public being fed political propaganda on climate change? Now is your chance to find out. Professor Plimer gives 101 simple questions with answers for you to ask teachers, activists, journalists and politicians. The climate industry adjusts the temperature record and withholds raw data, computer codes and information from scrutiny. Computer predictions of a scary future don’t agree with measurements. Past natural climate changes have been larger and more rapid than the worst case predictions yet humans adapted. Is human-induced global warming the biggest financial and scientific scam in history? If it is, we will pay dearly” – From back cover blurb**

Vegetarianism is one of the latest titles to arrive in the Issues in Society series.

It is very confronting, particularly in regard to our treatment of animals.

Some famous vegetarians that are listed in the book are: Socrates, Plato, Leonardo Da Vinci, Tolstoy, Bob Dylan, Peter Brock, Greg Chappell, Killer Kowalski, John Cleese, Richard Gere, Woody Harrelson, Guy Pearce, Ricky Martin, Billy Idol …….