

2022



WARRNAMBOOL COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Persistence, Resilience & Mutual Respect

/ EDITION #2



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PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

Wow – what a term it’s been (with of course one week still left to go). Today marks the end of nine weeks of continuous learning at school, which is momentous in that the last time that happened in Victorian school was term 4 2019, some 25 months ago. It’s been fantastic to be together at school, with confidence that we won’t be thrown into remote learning at short notice. This isn’t without its challenges though, as we all get used to the effort required to learn for the full school day and to work within the boundaries of school rules and expectations. Balancing staff and student wellbeing with student learning remains a priority for Warrnambool College as we move through the 2022 year.

Two of the highlights that stick out for me this term are students involvement in the whole school swimming and athletics carnivals. The vibe on each day was one of enthusiasm, putting in personal best efforts and celebrating the achievements of others. It was fantastic to see our senior students cheering on their younger compatriots and demonstrating a model of positive participation. The fact that Childers house were crowned swimming champions and Hopkins house were crowned athletics champions was a special achievement given that neither has previously won in the 11 year history of the house system. I look forward to the upcoming house based cups into term 2 and the participation and drive of students to be at their best once again.

EVERY WARRNAMBOOL STUDENT THRIVES



I've also had the privilege this week of being part of the year 7 camp down to Anglesea. Given that so many extra-curricular activities had to be cancelled over the past couple of years, it was great to see students enjoying themselves in the outdoors and being fully involved in the activities on offer. We reflected on camp at the ways in which we are able to demonstrate our school values of mutual respect, persistence and resilience to the wider community and to each other. I was particularly impressed with the kindness and sense of connection that students and staff constantly displayed to each other on camp. A huge thanks to our whole school community for pulling together to allow the year 7 camps to go ahead – staff on camps give up a lot of their personal time to be away from home and staff back at school are required to take on additional responsibilities to cover for those that are away. It is definitely a team effort for which I am most proud.

As we head into the cooler months of the year, COVID will still be very much with us. Keeping schools open and accommodating for student and staff absences due to isolation requirements will be a challenge that our school community will continue to manage with your support. Thanks to everyone this term for continuing to support student learning, at school with different teachers, and at home with working through learning left online.

I look forward to seeing some of you at our Open Night on Monday 4th April – I know it will be a great celebration of all that is great about Warrnambool College.

Wishing you and your family a safe and restful Easter school holidays.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Clift'.

Dave Clift - Principal



Emma Vesey
- Assistant Principal



REFLECTIONS ON TERM 1

As we draw to the end of term 1, we can reflect on the fact that this is the longest time we have been at school continually in the past two years. We have definitely packed as many experiences for our students as possible into this term.

In the last few weeks, our year 8s have enjoyed day trips to the Grampians to climb Mt Sturgeon, while also engaging in NaviG8 wellbeing days. The year 7s have enjoyed a great week on camp in Anglesea, which for many is their first camp experience. While our year 12 students have settled into their studies and enjoyed their rite of passage experiences while starting to count down the weeks until the end of year.



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

We would like to take this opportunity to remind families about the appropriate use of technology both at school and at home. The mobile phone policy which aligns with the Department of Education directive states that students are not to be in possession of their mobile phones between 9am and 3:30pm.

At Warrnambool College every student is given a locker that they can secure with a padlock. Mobile phones should be stored in lockers during the school day. If a student is found in possession of their phone during the school day, they are to hand their phone over to be stored safely at the front office. Currently students are able to collect their phone from the office at the end of the day, moving into term 2, parents will be contacted and requested to collect their child's phone from school. If a student refuses to hand over their mobile phone, a suspension will be issued and parents asked to attend a Student Support Group (SSG) meeting to support the student with changing their behaviours.

UNIFORM REMINDER



One of our 'Ready to Learn' focus areas is uniform. Students at Warrnambool College have the most flexible uniform options of any school in our region. When students are all in uniform it creates cohesion, reduces the potential for bullying, improves study ethic, increases safety, removes peer pressure and encourages professionalism. Wearing a uniform builds school pride and prepares students for the expectations of a working life.

Grey track pants, hoodies of any colour and leggings are not part of our school uniform. As we move into winter, every classroom in the school has a split system heater, so students should not be wearing non school jackets, hats and beanies in the classroom or the school yard. Students can wear, navy blue track pants with small logos, long sleeve navy blue or white shirts and the school shell jackets and school puffer jacket if they wish to be warmer. We ask all families to spend the time in the holidays checking if you have all of the required uniform to start term 2.

CYBERSAFETY & ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

During the numerous lockdowns in the last two years, students became more reliant on their electronic devices to communicate with their friends and social groups when they could not meet face to face. Recently we invited John Keats and Brooke Pollack from the Youth Community Liaison Dept of Vic Police to speak with two of our year 7 classes, they will return in term 2 to speak to the remaining year 7 classes and to our year 8's later in the year. The focus of these sessions was on cyber safety and appropriate use of technology.

We ask all families to discuss appropriate applications, communication and sharing of images and information on social media platforms. Too often at school we see the fallout of inappropriate online behaviour and this often causes significant disruption to the learning of students involved as they are unable to focus on their learning due to conversations and comments made on the weekend or overnight. We encourage you to have accountability conversations with your children and monitor their online behaviour so to ensure that all students feel safe coming to school. We also remind students that it is illegal to film other students without their permission and that in line with our mobile phone policy, if you are found to be using your technology during the school day there will be consequences for these behaviours.

We wish you all a safe and relaxing break and look forward to seeing everyone back on Tuesday 26th April "Ready to Learn" in term 2.



SCHOOL COSTS

A reminder to families to please check your homepage in Compass for the status of your school costs. You may have already set up your payment or a payment plan, if not and you would like to, please contact Chris Dickson on 5564 4444, or send an email, and we will organise that for you.

Your support is greatly appreciated to enable us to provide the best possible learning opportunities for your child/ren.

ONLINE INTERVIEW FEEDBACK

We are asking families for feedback on our Online Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews held earlier this term to determine the preferences of our school community.

Please complete the form accessed via link - forms.gle/JLKDj2KTVEfeBGAS6 or via QR code.



TERM ONE - LAST DAY

Term 1 finishes on Friday 8 April with a 2:30pm finish. On the last day we will be running an adjusted timetable with shortened periods with the following bell times:

9:00	House Assemblies
9:20	Period 1
10:20	Period 2
11:15	Lunch 1
12:00	Period 3
12:55	Recess
1:30	Period 4
2:30	Finish



Swimming SPORTS

Another fantastic display of colour, friendly rivalry and sportsmanship at our annual Swimming Sports in February. Lots of great outfits were on show along with great efforts in the pool. Congratulations to all our participants and to those who progressed through to the District events. The day was a golden triumph for Childers who were House Champions.

WESTERN DISTRICT SWIMMING

Deny Fawcett, Sophie Gleeson, Mikayla Bond, Gemma Bond, Georgia Turner & Hannah van Zyl made the trek to Horsham for the Greater Western Region Swimming Carnival on 18 March. Our strike rate was simply amazing with our students finishing on the podium in every event they competed in! All first place getters now progress to the State Swimming carnival being held in Melbourne on Thursday 28 May. Go Bullants!





athletics CARNIVAL

Our Athletics Carnival got underway on March 1st with rain clouds threatening in the distance. Everyone was keen to do their best and we saw some fantastic efforts by all students. A special shout out to Layla Watson, Aubery Watson, Grace Carter and Ashlee Pavletich who all broke long-standing records on the day. Once again, Mr Boote had some tremendous novelty events on offer which included Uno, Chess and a Scavenger Hunt – rumour has it several teachers lost socks to teams competing the scavenger hunt! Fortunately, we got through the majority of our events before the rain came down. Well done to our year level champions and a huge congratulations to Hopkins for taking out their very first Athletics Cup.





HOPKINS

Term 1 has been a very exciting and busy start to 2022 for Hopkins House. We started the year with great participation in the school Swimming Carnival and then managed to rain a blue parade over the Athletics Carnival, clinching victory for the first time in Hopkins House history. On the day students showed their true colours dressed in blue and participating all over the park, in not only the track and field events but also the novelty events. Our key message to students was participation and we are very proud of all involved on the day and back at school.

As well as our sporting achievements we are also proud of all students involved in The Arts, including the following students currently rehearsing for the school musical: Cameron Chuck, Jack Gartland, Lillian Smith, Maisie Rentsch, Noah McConnell and all those in the music ensemble.



Hopkins must also acknowledge the great effort of Cameron Chuck and Noah McConnell on winning the Warrnambool heat of Class Clowns and getting to perform in the finals in Melbourne.



Hopkins loves The Arts and Matilda Allen is a great representation of this as displayed through her hard work over the summer holidays with Le PeTiT CiRqUe in California, refining her acrobatics and performing skills.

What a great effort to all Hopkins students in term 1, we are looking forward to our Hopkins Celebrations Day supporting The Francis Foundation which will be happening later in term 2!



OPEN NIGHT



April 4
from 4:00pm

YOUR FUTURE YOUR WAY

WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL & ARE PROUD OF OUR VISION THAT EVERY WARRNAMBOOL STUDENT THRIVES.

Please join us for our Open Night to gain an insight into our school!

- OPTIONS INCLUDE:
- **School Tours:** at regular intervals from 4:30pm
 - **Come & Try Activities:** 4:30pm, 5:15pm & 6:00pm
 - **Official Presentations:** 5:00pm, 6:00pm & 7:00pm



Our 7:00pm Presentation will be live streamed
access via link: youtu.be/g02jDoXbljw

For more information:

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