ALBERT PARK COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 2016 – Issue 1

PRINCIPAL’S SAY

“From little things big things grow”
Paul Kelly

2016 is a historic year in the life of Albert Park College.

Significantly, our Foundation students are undertaking a full Year 12 for the first time. It is an exciting time as the work we have done over the past three years in developing our model of a three year VCE comes to fruition.

We are looking forward to our senior students building on the excellent results they achieved last year.

For the first time, we have six year levels at the College. In what seems like the blink of an eye we have grown from 150 students in Year 7 to over a thousand students across the six year levels.

In addition, we are constructing our Year 9 Da Vinci campus at 40 Bay Street. The construction works are well underway and we are looking forward to the move into the new building later in the year. The accompanying video gives you a snapshot of how the building has progressed. Please click here.

As I reflect on what we have achieved so far I think our greatest achievement has been to establish an instantly recognizable school culture.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 2nd March
Year 7 Expectation Evening
Parents & Carers
Drama room - 6 pm

Thursday 3rd March
APC Swimming Carnival
MSAC

Tuesday 8th March
Year 9 - World Challenge
Information Evening - 5 pm

Thursday 10th March
AGM - APC Families
London Hotel - 7 pm

Monday 14th March
Public Holiday
Labour Day

Thursday 17th March
Parent/Student - Teacher Interviews
10am - 7.30pm

21st March - 24th March
Da Vinci Exhibition
Federation Square

Tuesday 22nd March
Year 7 Immunisations
Middle Years Performance
Evening - 6.30pm

Thursday 24th March
Last day of Term 1

Monday 11th April
First day of Term 2
Built on our motto to Lead, Create and Inspire we have built a College that has rigorous academic standards, that is creative and innovative in nature and which cares deeply about its community and the issues that confront us from across the globe.

It is a culture that has been shaped by all of us involved in the life of Albert Park College and it is a culture of which we can all be so proud.

**Launch of our new website**

To coincide with this edition of the e-news we have launched a new version of the Albert Park College website.

More of a ‘refresh’ than a reinvention it is designed to be a window to the College - a way to develop an understanding of our College values and the way we operate.

Later this term, we will distribute the Albert Park College Directory which will provide detailed advice about key College policies.

I hope you enjoy the website’s bolder, more graphic interface and the way it opens up your understanding of the College.

*Steve Cook*
*Foundation Principal*

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**APC Solar panels**

So far 22 panels have been donated at $380.00 each, 18 to go before we can install a new bank of panels!
APC Arts

This year promises to be another exciting year for our visual arts enthusiasts, as we embark on more artistic initiatives within our community.

In March we will once again be displaying the work of our Da Vinci students at Federation Square. With the beginning of our new dedicated Da Vinci site, and the expansion of the program itself, this is a great opportunity to showcase the work our Year 9 students produce as they investigate environmental issues through an artistic discipline.

For the first time, we are thrilled to be partnering with the Arts Centre, Melbourne, as they continue to grow their education program, and term two sees us begin two new programs with the Arts Centre.

In April, a number of our senior students will engage with staff at the Arts Centre to explore their upcoming exhibition "Stage Presence". This exhibition highlights the enormous contribution Australian costume and set designers have made to the performing arts field and APC students will work with experts in sound, lighting, costume and set design to create their own responses to what they see and experience within the exhibition. These student works will be on display to the general public as part of the exhibition, which runs from April to September. More information on the Stage Presence exhibition can be found here.
In May, our middle years students will continue our work with the Arts Centre by joining The Walking Neighbourhood project. The Walking Neighbourhood encourages art through narrative, as children take an audience on a physical journey through their local neighbourhood and encourage others to see the world through their eyes. This promises to be an exciting and dynamic experience for our students and we look forward to sharing in their artistic stories. Please visit http://thewalkingneighbourhood.com.au

Finally, a note on our most significant arts event, the Annual Art Show, preparation for which will begin soon. This year the Art Show will move to our new campus on Bay Street, with a plan to extend its opening hours and increase the performance elements within the show. The new venue will be an exciting development for the sixth year of the Art Show, and we anticipate the new site in the heart of Port Melbourne will create even more interest within the community.

If you would like to get involved with the Art Show or any of our arts programs, or if you have ideas for new programs you would like to discuss, please contact Anne Stout at the College.

Calling all Art Show enthusiasts!
The first Art Show meeting will be held in APC’s conference room on Monday March 7th at 7pm. All welcome!

Crumpler People’s Choice Award: Camille Perry - Congratulations!
By Jessica Grilli

Late last year Camille Perry entered a photograph into the CCP Salon called ‘Celeste’. This photograph sold on the opening night, a huge accomplishment in itself. The CCP Salon is an annual event that celebrates the latest developments in photomedia practice around the country, and provides an excellent opportunity to exhibit work in a professional, high-profile context.

The competition included over 300 works of professional photography. Not only did Camille’s work sell, but she won the People’s Choice Award. This was a huge achievement and as her past Photography Teacher I am very proud.

This year we will be encouraging more students to enter the CCP Salon. If you are at all interested please see your Photography Teacher to guide you through the application process.
Year 8 Textiles Workshop with Cassie Byrnes

In Week 4, the Year 8 Textiles Students undertook a Pattern Design Workshop with Cassie Byrnes. Cassie Byrnes is a Melbourne based Textile designer who recently graduated from Textile Design at RMIT. She has created patterns for many designers including Country Road, Milk and Sugar, Ark Clothing Co and Kuwaii. In addition to this she has just started her own bright and colourful label called ‘Variety Hour’.

Her workshop has inspired students to develop their own patterns for the unit of work called ‘Patternalia’. In this unit, the top 5 designs from each class will be scanned and turned into fabric that they will use to create backpacks!
The Year 9 Da Vinci program has at its core a focus on the environment, involving the study of environmental philosophy and ethics. Students develop their own Big Question to guide individual and original investigations and experiments, combining scientific inquiry methods and qualitative research.

The Da Vinci program has an essential visual, performing and liberal arts component where students produce a creative response to showcase their Big Questions to the broader community. Creative responses have included items such as a dance piece embodying pollution and its impact on biodiversity on marine life. Students can be seen here in the local community beginning their work on collaborating, making observations and collecting data about human impacts on Port Phillip Bay. A creative response below “The Rainbow Gum Tree” studies how our lives directly affect plant life.
2016 Premier ANZAC Spirit School Winner

Congratulations to Spencer Glenfield for his winning essay in the 2016 Premier’s ANZAC Spirit School Prize. The essay has earned him a study trip to Greece, Turkey, Belgium and France. He was presented with the award on Wednesday 3rd February along with 21 other Victorian school students. Spencer’s winning essay is below.

What does the “Anzac spirit” mean today in a diverse and multicultural Australia? To what extent can your definition be related to the events and people of the Great War?

By Spencer Glenfield

As Australia has developed into a diverse and multicultural nation the Anzac spirit has remained as prominent and significant as it was 100 years ago. This spirit represents a set of values that encompass what it means to be an Australian citizen. Forged on the shores of Gallipoli through acts of kindness and determination the ANZAC spirit has become the foundation of contemporary Australia.

Though the spirit was created by soldiers during the Great War the qualities that it represents can be employed by anyone. This theory has existed from as early as 1920, when the Australian war historian Charles Bean expressed his belief that the spirit of the ANZACs extended beyond the battlefield. He believed that it stood for “enterprise, resourcefulness, fidelity, comradeship, and endurance that will never own defeat” (Charles Bean, ANZAC to Amiens, 1946).

Melbourne’s Shrine of Remembrance believes “ANZAC Day has become core to the identity of Australia itself” (Shrine of Remembrance). It is for this reason that the ANZAC spirit is an important part of Australia’s multicultural identity. It is a representation of the qualities that Australians hold in the highest regard, as both an integral part of Australian culture, and as a sign of respect to the soldiers who in sacrificing their lives provided a lasting example for future generations to follow.

Though not as openly revered as stories such as that of Simpson and his donkey, multicultural Australian soldiers in World War One also embodied the ANZAC spirit. “An estimated 30 per cent of Anzac soldiers [during World War One] were born overseas” (SBS). William “Billy” Sing was a half Chinese Australian soldier who served as a sniper at Gallipoli. His skill with a rifle saw him regarded as the greatest sniper present at the battle. Fellow soldier Ion Idriess’s description of Billy as “the crack sniper of the Anzacs” (Australian War Memorial) shows that he was accepted as a colleague and a hero by many of his peers.
Racism was prominent in Australia during the early 1900’s, particularly towards the Chinese. This was a result of the gold rush in the 1850’s, where “Chinese people were usually regarded as...an inferior race, and were often unfairly blamed for many things not of their doing” (The Original Gold Rush Colony). The soldier’s ability to ignore common racial prejudice to the degree that they respected and accepted their Chinese ally is a display of fidelity and comradeship, two of the values sighted by Charles Bean. Australia’s treatment of Sing upon his return supports this theory. He passed away forgotten and in poverty with “no sign of his medals or awards from the war” (Australian War Memorial). The tragic ending to Sing’s story highlights the fact that the ANZACs were some of the first Australians to respect and understand multicultural citizens. In this way, our current acceptance and celebration of different cultures in Australia is derived from the spirit of the ANZACs.

The values the ANZAC spirit represents are just as relevant today as they were during the Great War. The central qualities of the spirit, kindness and tenacity, have become apart of Australia’s national identity and ensure the spirit’s perpetual relevance. As Australia has changed over the past 100 years the values the ANZAC spirit represents have remained the same, but our understanding of them has changed. There are even those, like Brigadier Steve Day, who believe Australian’s “relate to [ANZAC Day] much more completely and thoroughly today than we did even a few decades ago.” (Steve Day to ABC Radio, 2009). This is a result of our heightened understanding of the values represented by the ANZAC spirit. The introduction of the Immigration Act between 1966 and 1978 represented a significant turning point in Australia’s understanding of the ANZAC spirit when the “Whitlam government took the final steps to remove race as a factor in Australia’s immigration provisions” (ABC). This historic event led the the eventual abolishment of the infamous white australia policy. During this time, in 1975, Australia also accepted a large amount of Vietnamese refugees, an act that past prime minister Malcolm Fraser recently stated to have “resulted in a dynamic Vietnamese Australian community, energetic, innovative and contributing enormously to the culture and development of this nation.” (Fraser, 2013). These events mark the beginning of Australia’s evolution into a multicultural nation as they represent a time when Australians began to realise that other cultures should be treated with kindness and respect, not just our own.

A contemporary example of the spirit in Australia is the country’s reaction and response to the earthquakes in Nepal, which highlight how much the country has changed since the era of the White Australia Policy. The response from the Australian public was one of kindness, determination, resourcefulness and comradeship. Thousands of ordinary Australians took action, many supporting human welfare organisations like Care, who “plan to reach a total of 100,000 people with emergency supplies, medical support, clean water, food and shelter” (Care, 2015). The country’s reaction to the tragedy was different to what it would have been in the past, but it is still showcased the ANZAC spirit. Australians now understand the importance and value of different cultures. An example of this is Kevin Rudd’s 2008 apology speech to Indigenous Australians, where he stated that it was time to move towards “a future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities” and to “embrace with pride, admiration and awe these great and ancient [Indigenous] cultures”. (Rudd, 2008). This newfound understanding and appreciation of different cultures is a factor which has strongly contributed to Australia’s transformation from a predominantly white country to a multicultural nation.

The ANZAC spirit was established during World War One but today has become more than just the memory of the soldiers who fought alongside each other at Gallipoli. It is the foundation upon which multicultural Australia has been built through acts of tenacity and kindness and therefore represents a large portion of what it means to be Australian.
Year 12 Students
Now is the time to start making plans for life after school. Later this year, students who want to undertake further study after school will need to lodge an application through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre. To start thinking about what tertiary training courses you might be interested in register with the MyFuture website and use the search function to find out what tertiary qualifications are required for the vocation you are interested in.

Go to: http://myfuture.edu.au/

Work Experience
Reminder: Year 10 students
Start planning your work experience placement now,
Work experience is taking place from November 28th – December 2nd

Did you know that there is a Careers bulletin on the Senior Years HUB with up-to-date information about career tasters, open days and opportunities?
Check it out at:

Work Experience Opportunity
Coles are hosting a digital work experience programme for students in years 10, 11 and 12 at the Coles Support Centre, Hawthorn
When: Monday 27th June to Friday 1st July 2016 (first week of holidays)
Additional information on the programme can be found here.
Applications will close on Thursday 24th March 2016.

Do you know someone with a hidden talent and a passion for Music Theatre or Jazz & Improvisation? The Victorian Curriculum Authority's Jazz Ensembles Studio and Music Theatre Studio Saturday courses for young people are starting soon! Taught by industry professionals in a workshop environment, our Studio courses for 15 – 20 year olds are designed to build confidence, develop performance skills and enhance learning. Interested students can book now at Melbourne University's website here.
The Albert Park College’s Cafe is looking to employ APC students to assist in staffing the cafe. Responsibilities will include: serving, making coffees and register skills, in addition to cleaning and restocking.

Interested students must express their interest in writing to Samantha Bonito: samanthabonito@albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au

Students should include the following in their email: the reason you are interested in the position, what qualities you possess that make you ideal for the position, any relevant experience you have and the name of a teacher who is willing to endorse your application (recommend you).

Applications close on Tuesday March 8th.

Can you help? Are you an employer? Do you work in an industry that employs young people? Do you work in a field that is unusual or interesting?

Albert Park College is creating a work experience database. Our year ten students undertake a week long placement in the first week of December each year.

If you work in a workplace that would be willing to offer one or more of our students a work experience placement please contact Kathryn Riosa at the College at kathrynriosa@albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au

Information about work experience can be accessed in the Department of Education’s Work Experience manual here.

Experience LaTrobe University!

2016 registrations are now open for Year 10 - 12 students and their parents to be involved in the university’s upcoming Campus Experience La Trobe events.

At these events, students will have the opportunity to attend workshops, lectures and seminars of their choice to find out about career options, areas of study, pathways and student life while parents will be able to participate in our special ‘parents program’.

Places are limited so students should get in quick to design a personalised program for the day.

For more information, and to register go to: http://www.latrobe.edu.au/experience

Robotics Workshop

Date: March 20th – April 1st. / Cost: $300

Swinburne University are offering a 3-day-workshop for students interested in robotics. Interested students can find out more information here.

Registrations close on Friday March 25th

Tutors wanted

Do you have a passion for learning? Are you interested in tutoring?

Albert Park College is creating a Tutor register containing the names and contact details of senior years students who are interested and available for tutoring to forward to the families of students in the middle years.

If you are in Year 11 or 12 and would like to join the tutor register please contact Miss Riosa at kathrynriosa@albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au
Using COMPASS

In 2015 Albert Park College introduced Compass to enhance our communication with families and students. Families have been provided a Compass username and password, which is separate from your child’s login credentials. Within Compass you can access:

- School payments
- Events and excursions payments and consent
- Student timetables (schedule), attendance,
- Contact teachers
- View academic reports from 2011 onwards
- Book parent teacher interviews

From the settings menu you are able to update your details, change your password and view past payments.

If you have any questions regarding accessing Compass please email: reports@albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au

Accessing Compass

Compass can be accessed from any browser via the web address: www.https:/ /albertparkcollege.vic.jdlf.com.au/

Parents are encouraged to bookmark this url for future reference. Compass also provide a free app which can be downloaded from iTunes store. Please note that you will need to log on to compass via a browser initially to confirm your account before accessing your account on the app.

When you first log in to compass you will be prompted to confirm your mobile number and email address. You will need to remove any spaces in your mobile number in order to proceed and then generate a new password. If your forget your password you can select ‘can’t access your account’ link and then enter your username and mobile number/email address and an sms with a temporary password will be sent to you.

Peer Education Program

The Albert Park College Peer Education Program involves students from our Middle School participating in tutoring sessions with some of the most capable students in the College’s Senior School. Teachers will recommend Middle School students who would benefit from additional assistance for tutoring sessions to assist them in achieving the best possible learning outcomes.

Our Peer Educators will go through a rigorous training program in term 1 to equip themselves with effective tutoring strategies and to build some confidence in their tutoring capabilities. Peer Education sessions will typically take place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at Homework Club in the Library.

Click here to read more about the Peer Education Program. If you have any further questions, please get in touch with Josh Patrick at joshuapatrick@abertparkcollege.vic.edu.au
Albert Park College has established an extensive, creative and vibrant Instrumental Music Program. This program is providing invaluable co-curricular experiences for participating students. In addition to teaching students to play an instrument the APC instrumental music program helps develop self-confidence and responsibility, coordination and dexterity, teamwork skills, commitment, creativity, and problem solving skills.

Instrumental music students attend weekly lessons with qualified, dedicated music staff. Lessons are offered on an individual basis and in small groups of between two and five students. These lessons are held during class time, with times alternating weekly to ensure students are not repeatedly missing time from the same class. Regular home practice is required to ensure progressive skill development.

As a participant in the APC Instrumental Music program your child will receive high-level instrumental tuition. They will also have the opportunity to take part in a range of ensembles, performances and excursions to significant musical events and to collaborate with professional music organizations such as the Australian National Academy of Music, ‘Wot Opera’ (Opera Australia), The Victorian College of the Arts, The Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, The Grigoryan Brothers, Monash University, Melbourne Recital Centre, as well as many others.

Currently we have a few spots left only for BRASS, WOODWIND and CELLO
Please click here to view the Instrumental Music Prospectus, and here for the music sign up form. (Student’s APC Account required)

Electronic Music Club

Join Albert Park College’s very own purveyors of electronic music - Ms Arlene Fletcher & Mr Gef Senz for Electronic Music Club!

Synths, sequencers, oscillators, arpeggiators, LFOs, loops, compressors, delays, MIDI, beats, square waves, pink noise, scapes, fun ...........
Every Monday lunchtime
in Room 2B! BYO iPads/laptops.

Looking for an Electronic Music Class

Lead Create Inspire
Science Snapshot

Science at APC in 2016 has begun with a great deal of activity. We have Unit 3 Physics, Chemistry & Environmental Science for the first time, and the students in the classes have set to task with positive energy.

In Unit 3 Chemistry, Chemical Analysis Unit, the experiment Gravimetric Determination of Sulfur in Lawn Food has involved titrations, vacuum filtering and accurate weighing, with calculating percentage mass.....sounds a little heavy? ..maybe .....but great techniques learnt & used! Among other activities, the Environmental Science Unit have been testing out different sunglasses, with datlogging equipment, to see if they do reduce the UV B rays that can cause damage to our eyes. And Physics.....well they are Dynamic......using the special datlogging equipment to check out different forces, to gain an understanding of Motion.

Year 11 Biology students studying cells have observed the effect of surface area to volume ratios on the efficiency of diffusion, using agar cubes, with phenolphthalein, exposed to dilute acid.....No you must not eat the jelly!!

In Year 10, the Chemistry Unit have been studying atomic structure, using modelling clay to help gain a visual concept of an atom’s structure, and performing flame tests with Spectrosopes to learn about the Electromagnetic spectrum. In addition, the students have been using different tests to ascertain the difference between Metals and Non-metal substances.

Meanwhile the Year 8’s are checking out how to use microscopes, the difference structures of cells, and the SEAL students have even been brave enough to do a Brain dissection!

Albert Park College will be participating in our first chess tournament of the year on 10th March. We wish all the chess players good luck.
“Fresh Apples”

The Albert Park College “Fresh Apples” programme is a great way to up-cycle your old Apple laptop and help create an equitable learning environment at APC.

If your family has an unused or outdated Apple laptop you plan to, or have replaced, please consider donating it to our “Fresh Apples” program. By making this donation you will assist us in giving every student an equal opportunity to learn. We want to ensure all students have access to an up-to-date device, regardless of circumstance.

Just make sure your Apple laptop meets the minimum requirements below, then bring it to the IT Help Desk in the library.

**MacBook Air**
- Any model MacBook Air
- In full working order (running slowly is OK)
- Functioning screen in good condition

**MacBook Pro**
- No more than 6 years old (2010 models and later)*
- In full working order (running slowly is OK)
- Functioning screen in good condition

*To check the model of your MacBook, click the Apple Symbol () in the top left of your screen and select About This Mac. Make sure the overview tab is selected, all relevant information should be shown as per the image above.

Please note that at this stage we cannot accept any white Apple MacBooks.

Mother Tongue Donations

As a part of one of the most diverse and multicultural cities in the world, the Albert Park College Library is endeavouring to promote multilingualism within its students through its literature. We would like to provide our students with the opportunity to be able to read in the languages of their ancestors and relatives, particularly those languages they intend to pursue in VCE this year. However curating this section of the library cannot happen quick enough to cater for the languages of our students. In order to make this happen we are asking for your help.

If you are able, we are looking for fiction donations in these languages:
- Spanish
- Swedish
- Italian
- German
- Greek (Modern and Ancient)
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Dutch

These donations will go a long way in helping students study for their end of the year exams, as well as contribute towards preparing Albert Park College for the International Baccalaureate.
APC French

The French Department is looking forward to another year full of fantastic opportunities for students of French!

Exchange program with our sister school

While most students were enjoying their summer holidays, four Albert Park College students were enjoying winter in France on exchange at our sister school. Chelsea Saw wrote the following about her experience:

"Going on exchange must have been one of the best things I have ever done for myself; I have never been one to throw myself in the deep end, so I surprised myself a lot by doing so! Constantly speaking in a foreign language and being away from home for 5 weeks is definitely a challenge (the other students who came on exchange: Emma Launder, Ella Green, Charlie Britzman would most likely agree with this), however overcoming this is indescribably rewarding. In 5 weeks I have formed life long relationships with people, improved enormously in my French, fallen in love with the French culture and gained the confidence to take risks and be bold in life. My host family, the quaint town of 'Les Sables d'Olonne' in which I stayed and the many crêpes eaten were all amazing. Anyone considering going on exchange should definitely go for it (especially in France)!

There are many opportunities to be involved in the exchange program with our sister school. If you would like to host a 15/16 year old student for 6 weeks from mid-July please click here and sign in with your son or daughter's account. Current Year 10 & 11 French students also have the opportunity to organize an exchange to our sister school like Chelsea did over the summer holidays. To express interest, please click here. (Student’s APC account required)

In 2017, APC will also be taking a group of Year 10 & 11 French students on a 3-week study tour to France including 2-weeks homestay at our sister school. French teachers will discuss this in class soon.

New Caledonia Study Tour

Very soon, students will be invited pay deposits for a proposed New Caledonia French study tour. The tour is open to all students of French and parents are warmly invited to attend. If you are interested in joining this trip to our nearest French-speaking neighbour, please ask your son or daughter to log in and fill in this expression of interest with you.

This will be an 8-day study tour, with 4-5 mornings of French immersion classes suiting beginners to more advanced learners. In the afternoons students will be involved in a number of cultural activities, including visits to the Tjibaou Cultural centre, Amedée Island, the museum of Noumea, as well as markets and other highlights. Year 7 and 8 students will stay in hotel accommodation in shared rooms. Older students will have a mix of hotel and homestay accommodation. All expenses are included in the $2,600 (TBC) price except the cost of a passport and insurance.
APC Families

On a perfect evening about 60 families together with teachers gathered in Gasworks Park for the 2016 twilight Welcome picnic. Every year families from many primary schools join the APC community and this event is part of APC Families program of events to encourage families with children at the school to get to know each other and meet the children and families of their new friends.

While mainly a Year 7 event, quite a few students join APC at more senior levels and many established families took the opportunity to attend and share a meal and make new friends. We also had new families from USA, Finland and New Zealand attend the event.

Particular thanks to the teachers who made the effort to attend.

APC families has a program of events throughout the year planned as no cost/low cost events to connect families in an informal setting including a year 9 beach picnic and a pub drinks each term.

APC Families AGM & Drinks at Mr Lawrence!

The London, 92 Beach St Port Melbourne. 10th March at 7pm

Please join us at Mr Lawrence for a short and sweet AGM and then drinks to meet fellow parents. We would be delighted to have you put your name forward to either be part of the APC Families core team or support many of the events we have planned for the year. The key fundraising events are The Art Show (Trudy Rice), Trivia Night (Shelley Osler) and Vaudeville (TBA). So come and find out more about what we do to create community and raise funds for APC.
Resilience contributes more to career and life success than academic intelligence.

Join Clinical Psychologist, Andrew Fuller in an interactive information session about building resilience in your young people.

Topics include:
- The ten most powerful ways to build resilience,
- Reducing stress,
- Creating happiness,
- Building self-esteem and dealing with set backs.

When: Tuesday 1st March 2016
Time: Arrive at 6.30pm, session 7 - 8.30pm
Where: Elwood College VCE Centre, 101 Glen Huntly Rd, Elwood
Bookings: Call Elwood College on 9531 9568 or email elwood.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:
• $125 for primary school students
• $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY
Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION
For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
The school cafe is open from 7:30am Monday to Friday. It provides students with the opportunity to purchase breakfast before school, snacks and lunch.

Please note: This information does not apply to Year 9 Da Vinci students.

All orders can be ordered daily directly from the cafe or online.

**Online Ordering**

Parents and students can order online **up until 9:30am** in the morning. The payment is also done online, so you no longer need to send cash or a paper order to school. As well as being convenient for students, the online orders are more accurate and much faster for the canteen to process. FlexiSchools is a well established and tested, operating in hundreds of schools across Australia.

**Student Card Payments**

Students can now use their student card to purchase goods at the canteen. Parents set up a FlexiSchools account online and pre-load their account with funds. Students can make purchases at the canteen by swiping their card at the cash register. Parents can view their students’ purchases online and can set a daily spending limit on the student’s card as well.

**Set Up Your Account**

Setting up an account for either Online Ordering or Card Payments is done online and only takes a minute. Simply go to [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) and click “Register Now”. You will be sent an email with further instructions on how to complete the registration. Once registered, you can start placing orders or using your card immediately.

The system operates via a pre-paid account, so you don’t need to scrounge for coins in the morning and can easily budget for your spending throughout the term.

There are a variety of payment options supported, including Visa, Mastercard (credit and debit), Bank Transfer and Payclick. Some top-up methods have fees or restrictions- please check online for details.

If you have any questions, FlexiSchools provide a great help desk on **1300 361 769**, or you can contact them via their website.

If you have any further questions, please ask the tuckshop manager for more information.

**A parent or guardian will need to register on the website in order to activate. You will be required to top-up your pre-paid account.**