Principal’s Report

We’ve had a very busy end to Term 2 at Maffra Secondary College with many great activities, events, excursions and opportunities for our students to be involved in. In addition, we’ve seen our Year 9 to 11 students engage in their mid-year exam, and teachers busy writing semester reports.

The last two weeks have seen our school production – Alice through the Looking Glass – take life, with the students having performed an incredible 7 shows. We were fortunate to have several hundred primary school students attend, as well as many parents and community members.

Production Director and drama teacher Sarah Whitwam has done a fantastic job in her first year at Maffra Secondary College.

Our Mini-Transition Day (Language Taster Day) went extremely well earlier this month. I had the pleasure of taking three grade 6 classes on the day, where we engaged students in activities to help them get to know each other and our school. A highlight of the day for many of the grade 6s was the carnival event, put together by our Year 10 students. A big thank you to Loueen Smith and Sue Clancy for the day.

We launched our award winning Broadening Horizons Science Inquiry project for the third year at the Maffra Memorial Hall last week, with our Year 8 students excited for what lays ahead. It was great for them to hear from a range of speakers, including students from last year’s program. We look forward to seeing the scientific experiments unfold as Term 3 progresses!

Upcoming Events

June 2016
20th– 27th Bali Trip

27th Kokoda Trip Departing

July 2016
11th Kokoda Trip Returns
11th 1st Day of Term 3
19th Melbourne Residential Colleges Presentation
20th Careers Expo
25th Year 12/VCE/VCAL Parent Teacher Interviews
29th- 31st Volleyball Schools Cup
29th Student Free Day
28th-29th Australia Post Immersion Program

School Council Meeting
Tuesday 18th July 2016
Parents’ Club Meeting
Tuesday 12th July 2016
Principal’s Report (continued)

I had the pleasure of attending the Allan McLean portrait unveiling at Duart Homestead. Allan McLean was a Maffra resident from the late 1800s to early 1900s who lived at Duart Homestead for a period of time. He was the first federal member for Gippsland following Federation in 1900 and later went on to become Premier of Victoria and Deputy Prime Minister of Australia. A remarkable man, by all accounts. It was great to see a range of community members at the end and certainly Cr. Darren McCubbin’s lively biography was a highlight of the night.

Last week also saw the launch of our Australia Post Corporate Immersion program for this year. Three weeks ago I attended the Bourke St headquarters of Australia Post and met with Australia Post executives together with 24 very keen graduates for this year’s program. Following a training session on teaching and mentoring, the graduates were broken into two groups, with 12 identified as working with our school. After some planning and preparation, our 12 graduates arrived in Maffra ready to meet our select Year 10 students. The graduates and students quickly got to know each other and became involved in a range of problem solving activities. Our students will now keep in touch with the graduates as we move towards the second part of the program, where our students will engage in a two day experience at Australia Post in Melbourne.

‘Challenging Learning’ significant focus for our college, as we work to ensure our students achieve their potential. This concept encompasses the Growth Mindset philosophy we introduced last year; we know that students who truly believe they can learn and get smarter (as is supported by the scientific evidence), will do better in just about all aspects of schooling. Challenging Learning extends this philosophy further to ensure we not only teach our students traditional facts and knowledge, but we also teach attitudes and skills needed to be lifelong learners. These include things like persistence, resilience, organisation and critical thinking.

This week we had a school closure day where all teachers heard from international expert on Challenging Learning, James Nottingham. The day was met with great enthusiasm from staff, as they look at ways to continue to improve their practice and enhance learning at our college.

Semester Reports will be available to students and parents online for the first time in the college's history, with access via the Compass parent and student portals. This is the beginning of some larger work we are undertaking for a shift towards ‘continuous reporting’. This new model would see students and parents receive written feedback at regular intervals throughout the semester, which is then later compiled as the formal semester report. We know from research and evidence that the more timely feedback is provided to students, the more effective it is. I look forward to sharing more about this initiative next term.

I have been in contact with our Principal Jeanette McNamara, who has had an enjoyable time traveling Australia this term. I have been asked to pass on to our community Jeanette’s intention to retire at the end of her long service leave in Term 3. The Department of Education will engage with our school council to undertake a selection process for a new principal in the near future. Jeanette has served in public education for four decades, with nearly all of that time at Maffra Secondary College. We’ll be considering how we will acknowledge her work and achievements in the near future.

In other staffing news, I’d like to congratulate Nathan Wallace on his appointment as Acting Assistant Principal for the next 6 months, and Lorena Haywood as Acting Leading Teacher for Middle Years over the same period. Finally, I’d like to thank all of our students, parents, staff and community for their continued support in Term 2. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to catching up in Term 3.

Adam Hogan - Acting Principal
More than they imagine……..

After filling in as Assistant Principal for the past several weeks, I have been utterly impressed by the learning opportunities that I have witnessed both in and out of the classroom. Here is my brief account of these opportunities from term two:

- Congratulations to everyone involved in the school production. Students, staff and audience members have been enthralled by the enthusiasm, positivity, teamwork and professionalism shown by those involved.

- I was fortunate to travel with a bus load of cross country runners to Yarram earlier in the term. All students represented our college with distinction and we had a record number of athletes progress to the Gippsland Finals. Some of these have qualified for State Finals early next term. Good luck to those students!

- This term we had a group of Year 9 Personal Best students spend a week in Melbourne on camp. They learnt how to navigate around a large city and interact within a diverse cultural community. Students presented findings of their investigations to parents and teachers on Wednesday night.

- Twelve year 10 students have commenced working with graduates from Australia Post to plan a business idea. These students will travel to Melbourne next term to ‘pitch’ their idea to senior members of AusPost.

- The year 8 students had their Broadening Horizons Launch to learn about a project that they would undertake in Science in term three. They will work with mentors from our business partners next term, then showcase their project finding at the MSC Science Expo in August.

- We held our first Transition day for Grade 6 students, with groups experiencing a language taster lesson and culminating in the Year 10 Carnival. It was fantastic to see our students welcome new students and interact with their old school friends.

- This Monday the staff were involved at a professional development day in Sale. The presenter was James Nottingham, an educational specialist from the UK, who spoke about Challenging Learning. This is an evidence based approach to improving student learning progress by challenging the way that they currently think.

- Next term, Year 7 students start receiving live feedback as part of our transition to continuous reporting. This is monumental in providing more timely feedback to students and parents about their learning. Year 8-12 will follow in 2017.

What a busy term! A huge thank-you must go to the staff that dedicate themselves tirelessly to providing these amazing opportunities for students.

Finally, I wish all students and their families a relaxing and safe break. Please read through the semester reports and use the future learning suggestions to help set learning goals for semester two.

Nathan Wallace
Building Fund

Maffra Secondary College has established a Building Fund which will allow the school to raise much needed funds for specific areas around the school. Each year we intend to set a specific project, which with parental support will enhance the culture of our school.

This year we will be focusing on an audio visual system for the Gymnasium to enhance Health and PE classes, as well as allowing for the celebration and recognition of student achievements at whole school assemblies. We feel positive assemblies form a really important part of fostering a positive school culture.

Building Fund donations can be made at any time at the office and are fully tax deductible. Our aim for 2016 is to raise $6000, which with the support of 400 families could be greatly achieved. The sense of community is a significant part of our school, and we know together we can make this an even greater school for our students.

Year 12 RACV ‘Free to Go’ Presentation

Yr.12 students attended an RACV ‘Free to Go’ Presentation in the school library on June 14th. Free2go is a motoring assistance program developed especially for young Victorians who are new to the road. The program offers free Roadside Assistance for 18 year olds and year 12 students, or half price if you are 19 or 20. If you are interested in more information, please visit the website: http://www.racv.com.au/wps/wcm/connect/racv/free2go

Year 11 F2D ‘Fit to Drive’ Presentation

Year 11 students will be attending a ‘Fit to Drive’ Presentation on July 13th. The overall purpose of the F2D Year 11 Workshop is to reduce youth road trauma. The workshop experience supports them to make good decisions when faced with risky driving situations, both as passengers and in terms of their future driving safety. F2D is about changing attitudes and behaviours - not their driving skills. If you are interested in more information, please visit the website: http://www.f2d.com.au/

Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held Monday July the 25th. You can sign up for an interview via COMPASS as of Wednesday 13th July and may also receive a request to attend the meeting during week 1 of term 3 if there are any concerns regarding your child’s progress. We encourage all parents and Yr12 students to attend, as this is a valuable opportunity to discuss strategies, supports and areas of focus to enable your child to maximise their success during the end of year exams which begin on October 26th.

Year 11 & 12 Revision Lecture Opportunities

A reminder that a number of different revision lectures (some of which are subsidised) are held throughout the year that can assist students to revise and develop their understanding of the subjects they are studying. Parents and students studying a Unit 3&4 VCE subject have access to this information through notice boards in the VCE study centre, via the Portal and email. We encourage you to take advantage of this learning opportunity.

Sub-School News

Senior Years

Prom

This year’s School Prom was held at the Maffra Hall on the 10th June. The casino themed evening was very successful. It was a great opportunity for students to socialise, dress-up and have fun. A very successful evening. A big thank you to the students and staff who organised and supervised the event!
**Science News**

**Year 11 Biology Field Trip**

On Wednesday the 11th of May Kirsty Speirs and David Montague took 25 Year 11 students out to Wombat Crossing to study ecosystems. Students used transect lines to map out their area of study and then quadrats to closely examine a section of the ecosystem. Students investigated the types of species in the area and their abundance. We studied areas that were affected by the 2006-2007 bushfires and by the recent strong winds. Marshmallows were toasted as students compared and discussed results. On returning to school students identified various species found and compiled individual reports comparing the two ecosystems (burnt and non-burnt ecosystems). Students were enthusiastic, putting in a fantastic effort both out in the field and in the laboratory and were commended on their behaviour by our bus driver.

A huge thank you to Monty for sharing his knowledge of the area and the species present.

**Tafe News**

TAFE News: A reminder to TAFE students regarding the expectations of behaviour whilst undertaking study off campus. When complaints come back to the school concerning poor behaviour, attitude or progress at TAFE, there will be an interview with the student and parent/guardian notified. If there is a further complaint from TAFE or other students with regard to the same student(s), then an interview with the Principal will be organised to review your enrolment in TAFE.

Agriculture students undertaking a fencing activity

**VCAL Work Placement**

James has been consolidating his fencing skill whilst on placement. This supports his knowledge for his Agricultural TAFE course.

Laurina Lodge in Heyfield has provided more Hospitality experience for Courtney. She has become quite skilled at plating up food and enjoys serving the clients there.

Jo Jo’s in Johnson Street, Maffra has allowed Emma to demonstrate her Hospitality skills whilst she continues to complete her TAFE course.

Jack has expanded his electronic knowledge at AV repairs in Maffra, both in the workshop and out in different locations.

There will be an excursion to Melbourne in early August to complete the unit of Social Diversity and Community Issues for ALL VCAL students for Personal Development. After the excursion, students will attend a Footy Match. **Dates are yet to be confirmed** by some institutions and as soon as that information becomes available, forms will be sent home. The cost is projected to be approximately $100 per student.
Attendance

Use the SMS number 0419345857. This number does not receive calls please text only. If no explanation is provided then the absence remains unexplained.

Or Call – 51 471790

Detailed explanations are required for absences. Using the word appointment does not give enough information, therefore if it’s for a medical appointment, doctor, dentist or optometrist it needs to be stated. This also applies when signing a student out. More information is better than not enough. Every effort is made to ensure your child’s records are accurate. If you have any queries regarding your child’s attendance record please feel free to ring Kath Shepheard at the school 51 471790.

Buses

SAFETY - IT’S A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.

For students:
• Stand well back from the road and don’t push and shove when waiting for the school bus.
• Only approach the curb once the school bus completely stops.
• While on board sit down and hold on.
• If the bus has seatbelts you must wear them at all times.
• Don’t be noisy or unruly, the driver has to concentrate on driving.
• When leaving the bus never cross the road until the bus has moved away and you can clearly see all road traffic.
• Remove your headphones and ignore your mobile phone so that you can be fully aware of your surroundings.

For parents:
• Try to park on the same side of the road as the school bus stop so your child doesn’t have to cross the road. Remember many school bus stops are located on roads that have 80/100 km speed limits.

For car drivers:
• Slow down and watch for students when you see a school bus has stopped.

BUS SAFETY - IT’S A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.

Duke of Ed

Five keen students headed down to Cape Conran Coastal Park for their Bronze Duke of Ed Practice Hike last week.

On arrival, the students grabbed their packs and headed off down to the beach on our way to Dock Inlet. We were able to enjoy a perfect winter’s day with a cool breeze, but plenty of sunshine to keep us warm. After lunch we found Dock Inlet, but unfortunately we weren’t able to locate the walking track. This means we all walked back down the beach, crossing the freezing Yeerung River on dusk.

All students enjoyed a warm dinner, campfire and toasted marshmallows before heading to their tents for a well-earned rest. The following morning our hikers were up with the birds for a bushwalking leadership briefing and some first aid skills.

This time we headed west, following the coast towards the stunning Salmon Rocks, with Monty providing some fascinating observations on flora and fauna.

Each member of the team performed their role well ensuring we dealt swiftly with the surprise first aid ‘emergency’ and ‘evacuation’. We reached West Cape just ahead of schedule, allowing time for a few quick ‘slides’ down the sand-dunes, before stopping for a late lunch in Orbost on the way home.

Congratulations to Reece Bedggood, Mikayla Underwood, Claire Coster, Lucy Capurso and Adrienne Hume who all embraced this new experience and worked well as a team to ensure a successful camp.
Cross Country

On Wednesday 1st June, 35 students travelled to Yarram for the Wellington District Cross Country event. The weather was sensational and all students represented our school brilliantly. Everyone tried their best and an impressive 24 students progressed to the Gippsland regional finals. Some impressive individual results:

1st - Jyle Nardone (14 yr Boys);
    Lindsay Coridas (14 yr Girls);
    Brayden Hone (16 yr Boys);
    Hayden Sedman (20 yr Boys)
2nd - Kaleb Pazek-Evans (13 yr Boys);
3rd - Chloe Kerr (14 yr Girls);
4th - Jenna Ross (14 yr Girls).

Congratulations to everyone for their efforts on the day. Good luck for the next stage.

Exercise More, Eat Less

During this semester the OHS Team have been running an Exercise More, Eat Less programme for the staff. Staff earned a raffle ticket for each kilogram lost, centimetre off their waist or maintaining a healthy diet or exercise programme.

It has been a great success and motivated staff to focus on their health. It would not have been successful without the generous support of the following businesses.

In no particular order:
- Hair New York – Sale
- Hair is Kanyemba – Sale
- Amcal Chemist – Sale and Maffra
- Chemist Warehouse – Sale3
- Bulmers – Sale
- Alexanders Cyles – Maffra
- Ivy Black Hair – Maffra
- Hair Raunch – Maffra
- Salon Elan – Maffra
- Anytime Fitness – Sale
- Mirada Hair – Maffra
- Stobies – Maffra
- Howard and Shuback Mega Sports – Sale
- Cosmois – Sale
- Carolyn’s Profession Beauty touch – Sale
- Aussie Disposals – Sale
- The Nutrition Pod – Sale
- Harvey Norman - Sale
- McQuillen Meats - Maffra
- Wellington Shire – gym/pool passes
- Ansell – Box of gardening glove
- Gippsland Water – Water bottles and trigger nozzels.

House Sports

Accumulative Total

Throughout the first semester the students have participated in various school events that have counted towards House Points. Through the swimming, athletics, cross country, school production, and the student led four square competition, it has led to the following House Points totals.

Avon 3360
Freestone 3032
Macalister 2893
Thompson 2713

With some more events due to take place next semester, there is still plenty of opportunity for students to collect points for their house and change the final standings.
MSC Parents Club

We’re extremely fortunate to have a dedicated and hard work group of parents supporting our school through various fundraising activities. Each year staff have the opportunity to request larger equipment items that will enhance student learning from funds raised. With guidance from our Principal, Parent’s Club allocate funds according to the greatest need. So far this year our Parent’s Club have donated a staggering $12,555 worth of new items to our school. This is all the more remarkable when we consider we have only a small number of regular parents on the committee. Parents Club is always interested in new parents who can support the school in various ways. Further information can be sought from the general office. From everyone at Maffra Secondary College, thank you to our amazing Parent’s Club!

Melbourne Chamber Orchestra
Bach: Spirit and Spectacle
Starring Sara Macliver

Thursday June 23 at 8.00pm
Sara Macliver is a musical living treasure. Her superb soprano voice is the perfect vehicle for the moving Bach arias she performs with MCO in this program. The program also showcases brilliant young violinist Anne-Marie Johnson as the soloist in Bach’s demanding D minor Violin Concerto.

Student price $13.00

ESSO BHP Billiton Wellington Entertainment Centre

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Mental health first aid is the help provided to a person who is developing a mental health problem, or who is in a mental health crisis, until appropriate professional treatment is received or the crisis resolves. Mental health first aid strategies are taught in evidence-based training programs authored by Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Australia and conducted by MHFA Instructors across Australia.

This specific course will be targeted for parents/careers/or significant others of any student that attends the Maffra Secondary College (those aged between 12 and 18 years); however, the course can be relevant for those helping people who are a little younger or older.

The developing mental health problems covered are:

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Psychosis
- Eating disorders
- Substance misuse

The mental health crisis situations covered are:

- Suicidal thoughts and behaviours
- Non-suicidal self-injury (sometimes called self-harm)
- Panic attacks
- Traumatic events
- Acute effects of drug or alcohol use
- Severe psychotic states

Format
This is a 14 hour course, which will delivered over four weeks, time commencing at 6.00pm -9.30pm,

Dates for 2016:-
- Monday 22nd August 2016
- Monday 29th August
- Monday 5th September
- Monday 12th September

Venue will be at the Maffra Secondary College.

Cost
$10.00 per participant

For Registration or more information please contact:-
Jacquie Hollingsworth, Ph 51438970 or Email: jhollingsworth@lrh.com.au

Please note there are limited numbers for registration
## School Canteen Volunteers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
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| 11 July - 15 July | Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1  
Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1 | Emma Williamson  
Maree Lang  
Lorraine Hetherton  
Helper x 1 | Tracey Ryan  
Lorraine Hetherton  
Helper x 1 | Kerry Flett  
Lorraine Hetherton  
Louise Leighton |
| 18 July - 22 July | Sally Kors  
Nicky Maxfield  
Helper x 1  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Melissa Fulton  
Jodie Underwood  
Cath McDonald  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Justine Lowery  
Lauren McQuillan  
Helper x 1  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Kim Marchesi  
Linda Cam  
Helper x 1 | Cath McDonald  
Lorraine Hetherton  
Chris Cooper |
| 25 July - 29 July | Sally Kors  
Cath McDonald  
Michelle Delahney  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Vivienne Johnstone  
Vicki Nikolajew  
Helper x 1  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Helen Peegers  
Maree Lang  
Sue Brown  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Lorraine Hetherton  
Helper x 2  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Lorraine Hetherton  
Helper x 2  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors |
| 1 Aug - 5 Aug | Fiona Lambourn  
Kellie Lear  
Sally Kors  
Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1  
Fiona Lambourn  
Kellie Lear  
Sally Kors | Kristal Van Sluys  
Maree Lang  
Helper x 1  
Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1  
Fiona Lambourn  
Kellie Lear  
Sally Kors | Linda Cam  
Leanne Gallatly  
Helper x 1  
Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1  
Fiona Lambourn  
Kellie Lear  
Sally Kors | Danielle Burke  
Louise Leighton  
Helper x 1 |
| 8 Aug - 12 Aug | Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Fiona Channing  
Irene Devisser  
Helper x 1  
Sandra Dekkers  
Fiona Gardiner  
Sally Kors | Emma Williamson  
Maree Lang  
Lorraine Hetherton  
Helper x 1 | Tracey Ryan  
Lorraine Hetherton  
Helper x 1 | Ellen Bakes  
Kerry Peels  
Louise Leighton |

All volunteers, please help as much as possible as it is hard to operate with 2 windows open for the Students as they only have a short time to get food before the bell. Even if it’s only for recess or lunchtime for those who are not on the roster. All help is much appreciated. Thank you. Tracey

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**Maffra Secondary College Careers Expo Information Night**

- **Date:** Wednesday 20th July
- **Where:** Maffra Memorial Hall
- **Time:** 6:00pm – 8:30pm

**Local Employers:** (Available to discuss career opportunities)
- Dept of Environment & Primary Industries (DEPI)
- Apprenticeships Group Australia (AGA)
- Central Gippsland Health Service, Wonthaggi Shire Council
- Tertiary & Further Education
- Federation Training
- Federation University, Australian Catholic University
- Community College Gippsland
- Tractor Design School
- Beauty EDU
- Engineers Aust
- Australian Institute of Personal Trainers
- J.M.C. Academy
- TEM Training

**Community Groups:**
- CFA, SES, Victoria Police, Gippsport, RAAF - School of Air Traffic Control, Vic. Forests, Victorian Assoc. of Forest Industries, National Disability Co-ordination, Defence Force Recruiting Officer (NDCO), National Centre for Dairy Education Australia (NCDEA)
- and many more...

Contact the College for any further details on:
- Ph. 5147 1790 or email: maffra.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

Course information for students studying Year 9-12 in 2017