

**Principal: Rosina Fotia   Assistant Principals: Isabella Phillips/Tim Wright**

**Issue: 4   Volume: 21**

**Date: May 2021**

## COLLEGE CALENDAR 2021 – JUNE

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Mid-Year Music Concert
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 12 GAT
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 7 Museum Day
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 12 Social
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Exams
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Middle School Exams
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Central Australia Tour
<b><i>Please Note: all dates and times are subject to change</i></b>	

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Learning Focus

Although we are almost half way through this term, the focus has definitely been on learning in the classroom. Teachers continue to meet regularly to develop and refine classwork to ensure that every child can access the curriculum at their level. The culmination of all this is NAPLAN. NAPLAN testing has now been completed and the testing period is closed. The College uses the NAPLAN data to determine where student growth has occurred and to identify concept and skill areas that need to be further addressed or incorporated into our curriculum design. NAPLAN results will be forwarded to parents later in Term 3.

Another important learning tool has been the Work Experience Program. This year over 90% of Year 10 students have successfully secured a place a Work Experience placement. This opportunity provides young people with another "taste" of life outside school in the hope that it assists with their future planning. Students worked in a wide variety of settings and each appreciated that their experience was a crucial component of their career planning journey.

### Visit from Minister of Education and Murrindindi

Friday April 30 saw the official opening of Stage 1 Building Works. James Merlino, the Acting Premier and Minister for Education and Harriet Shing, Member for Eastern Melbourne attended, along with approximately 40 representatives from DET and surrounding schools. Murrindindi graced us with his presence and opened proceedings with a smoking ceremony. DET took the opportunity to launch its Indigenous Strategy at this event.

**Absence Hotline: 9735 7040**

**Email: [lilydale.heights.co@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:lilydale.heights.co@education.vic.gov.au)**

**Visit: [www.lilydaleheights.vic.edu.au](http://www.lilydaleheights.vic.edu.au)**

## Principal's Report (continued)...



### Misty Adoniou PD

Thursday May 20 was an organized PD day for faculty leaders and Mr Denny, Head of Curriculum. Eight staff from the College worked with Misty Adoniou. Misty is an educator with many years of experience teaching undergraduate and post-graduate teacher education courses in Language and Literacy. She is working to develop the capacity of leaders and through them all teachers, to hone skills in the teaching of writing. This focus directly aligns with the College Literacy Improvement Plan with particular focus on Writing and Writing across the Curriculum.

### Curriculum Day

Friday May 28 was the scheduled curriculum day for this term. This day allowed teachers to plan for the upcoming examination period. Staff also undertook structured Professional Learning focussed on incorporating Sustainability into curriculum documentation, preparing for moderation of assessment tasks and completed training to improve our capacity to support students with special needs.

## *Principal's Report (continued)...*

### **Athletic Sports Carnival**

Spectacular weather greeted staff and students as they arrived at Proclamation Park on Wednesday May 24 for the annual Athletics Carnival. Student participation rates were at their highest level in many years and staff were kept on their toes in the staff/student competition. Congratulations to all students who participated and to the organising team led by Mrs Sonya Tamos and the P.E. Faculty.

Well done to Yarra house for their outstanding win and to all students who attended and contributed to a wonderfully successful day!

### **It's NOT OK to be AWAY**

Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your child get better learning outcomes, develop healthy life habits, avoid dangerous behavior and have a better chance of graduating from high school and transitioning to further study, traineeships or full time employment.

When students are absent for fewer days, their results and reading skills often improve—even among those students who are struggling in school. Students who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their community, develop important social skills and friendships.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to school and would like some support, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant sub-school Learning Leader on 9735 1133.



**Rosina Fotia, Principal**

## **UNIFORM**

**A reminder that all students in Years 7 and 8 must wear the uniform supplied by PSW as per the uniform requirements.**

**Students in Years 9 to 12 - any replacement uniform items must be purchased from PSW.**



## COMPASS AND DUKES AWARD 2021

Yes! Our practical events for our new groups got underway on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April, when over 45 students between all of the 4 levels of Award groups worked their way around different routes around Lilydale. The students were excellent and worked very well with each other in their groups, learning to recognise placements on the map and making decisions as a group as to their navigation.

It was excellent to see all the groups coming back together and walking along Nelson Road with the sunset behind them. It was a fantastic start, especially to our young junior groups in Years 7 and 8. Well done to all and we look forward to developing our cooking and camp-craft activities in our upcoming after school training events.

Clare Rayner –  
Compass/Duke of Ed. Co-ordinator.



***Lilydale Heights College would like to thank Bendigo Bank Mooroolbark Community Branch, for their support and sponsorship of the Duke of Edinburgh Program and our Automated External Defibrillator Device (AED).***

Mooroolbark  
Community Bank® Branch





## JAPANESE

This month, students have been learning about some cultural events on the Japanese calendar which is always interesting as these are often so different to the types of things we do in Melbourne. One of the main events is the celebration of ***Kodomo-no-hi*** (Children's Day) on 5<sup>th</sup> May. This day is dedicated to celebrating the happiness and prosperity of children and often during this day, children play traditional Japanese games. Our students got a chance to have a go at some of these games including *Kendama*, *Ohajiki* and *Daruma Otoshi*. Later on this term, students will continue to research more about important events in Japanese culture.



Year 7 students have been learning the *Hiragana* alphabet used for reading and writing. Students have been playing a range of different learning games to help them remember the characters and the matching sound. Once they know these, students are able to read and write Japanese which is pretty amazing! Through these games, students also learn more about teamwork, they get to know each other more and they enjoy their learning. Keep up the great work Year 7 students!



Michelle Pezzimenti – Japanese Teacher.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The Middle School Outdoor Ed class again had the opportunity to combine theory content with practical experiences; this time preparing themselves for their upcoming camp by completing the 1,000 Steps in Dandenong Ranges and challenging themselves at Trees Adventure - a High Ropes Course. The students really enjoyed the day and should be proud of the way they each challenged themselves.

Nicola Boyle – Outdoor Ed. Teacher.





## INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS TERM 2

What a busy term we have had for the first half of Term 2. We have had over 20 different Sport teams participating in the Yarra Group Interschool Sports competitions, as well as Yarra Group Cross Country, the Eastern Region Baseball and very recently the Athletics Carnival, which we will feature in the next Newsletter. Sports that have been played this term were Football (Girls and Boys), Netball (Girls and Boys), Badminton, Soccer and Table Tennis. Some of the results are:

Yarra Group Cross Country on Friday May 7 at Lilydale Lake.

We took close to 50 students with five of our age group teams coming third (13 girls, 14 boys, 14 girls, 16 boys, Open boys). Two of our age group teams came second (16 girls, Open girls) and overall, the team came 3<sup>rd</sup>. Individually, Jake Angus in Year 8 came 3<sup>rd</sup> and Kane Parkinson in Year 10 came 2<sup>nd</sup>. 24 students finished in the top 15 and can go through to The EMR Cross Country that will be held on June 15 in Yarra Glen.





## *Inter-School Sports Term 2 (continued)....*

Congratulations to our winning Year 8 Badminton Girls who came away with the blue flag on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May and are now heading off to the EMR competition in August.

Great work Bella Harlen, Alma Kerr, Merinda Catania and Natasja Lammertsma.



Congratulations also go to the Senior Badminton girls who won their competition and will be playing in the EMR competition in July.

Bridey Withers, Bella Theophanous-Maddison, Noie Petchanan and Anna Nguyen.



Senior Girls also had success coming second in both the Netball (losing only one game) and Basketball, as did the Intermediate Boys Soccer team.

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May the Year 8 Netball team competed at the Yarra Group Interschool Netball Competition. All the girls did a great job against some tough competition, with one LHC team coming 3<sup>rd</sup> overall for the day.



Sonya Tamos – Interschool Sport Co-ordinator.



## GRID IRON

The Year 9 and 10 students played the American version and non-contact version of football over the time period of one month. This version is called flag football and instead of tackles we had velcro belts with tags, and when they were ripped off it was considered a tackle. We all had a lot of fun and it was amazing to learn a new sport and try something different. It was good to step out of our comfort zones and try new things while making new friends at the same time. The coaches made the game easy to pick up and taught us the key things about the sport. They taught us plays to use on offense and defence. It was great to see Hunter play injured, which showed enormous courage. Thanks to Harry, Deacon, Taite, Brodie, Josh, Xavier, Bryce, Hunter and Liam for making it a great experience at school.

Zak Clinton and Xavier Pinto – Year 10



## GIRLS FOOTBALL

On Monday 17th of May, the Junior, Middle and Senior school girls headed to Barnegeong Reserve to compete in the Yarra District interschool football competition.

### Senior/Middle School Match Report:

A team combined of middle school and senior school students played one game against Lilydale High School's senior girls team. The girls battled hard for four quarters, but without players on the interchange our opposition was able to press quite hard towards the end of quarters. The girls set out to play an attacking, offensive brand of football, and largely achieved that goal particularly in the second half. While we didn't out-score the High School team, we owned field position for much of the 3rd and 4th quarters which resulted in some high quality scoring opportunities, which we were unfortunately unable to take advantage of. Lilydale High eventually ran out convincing winners, however I was extremely proud of the effort of our players, who never dropped their heads and continued to beat their opponents one on one. The structure and system of the High School team was too strong for us in the end, but that gives us some areas to work on for next year. Special congratulations to Sarah Rice and Hayley Burgess who lead the team beautifully. I want to thank TJ and Jade Mason who made their final appearances for the Lilydale Heights Sport program. The contribution to girls footy and sport in general at the College has been sensational and we wish you all the best for your exams. You're welcome back to coach teams any time!

Best players: Sarah Rice, Hayley Burgess, Jess Burgess, TJ Jacobs, Jade Mason, Jade Rice, Ryleigh Tesoriero

Goal scorers: Ryleigh Tesoriero



## Girls Football (continued)....

### Junior Girls Match Report:

Teams played: Lilydale HS, Upper Yarra SC, Healesville SC

Wins: 3

Yarra district premierships: 1!

What an amazing day for our junior school students, many of whom were playing their first games of football. Football is a hard game to play, but when players apply themselves the way the girls in this junior team did, it can be made to look effortless. We had something like nine players off the field at any given time, which lead to some challenges getting players on in their preferred positions, but all of the girls were amazing with their patience and were extremely supportive of each other when they were resting on the interchange. After winning our first two hit-outs against Lilydale High and Upper Yarra, the girls had a break and composed themselves for what would be a massive task to beat Healesville to take out the Yarra District premiership. In the first two games we had the game on our terms; we out-numbered the opposition at every contest, we released the ball with our kicking skills quickly and we supported each other when we were defending. This gave the girls confidence against a very talented Healesville side. We knew that if we played fun, attacking football and we were able to beat our opponents one on one, we would be a great chance. Two players who were crucial to us in this area were Cindy Sargent and Ella Wood, who played on some of Healesville's most dangerous players and kept them both scoreless. This, combined with Cindy's intercept marking and Ella's creative run off half back, gave our midfield group great confidence to spread quickly from the contest and provide support to our forwards. Liv Murphy, Ava Wallis-Hasell, Maddie Cameron and Sophie Freeman lead our Year 7 group beautifully on and off field and Jess Dixon was absolutely dominant in the ruck. We were able to overcome a talented Healesville side easily on the scoreboard in the end, but if you ask the girls they'll tell you exactly how hard the game was. We couldn't be more proud of you all and we now look forward to competing at Eastern Zone in June!

Consistent players on the day: Cindy Sargent, Liv Murphy, Jess Dixon, Sophie Freeman, Maddie Cameron, Bella Harper, Jayli Kift-Rochow, Ruby Paola, just to name a few!





## MT BULLER/MT STIRLING DUKE OF ED REPORT *by Bella Theophanous-Maddison 11B*

Our initial starting date (Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April) had to be postponed until the following day due to an issue with sufficient staffing. However, the trip was nonetheless incredible.

### **Friday 23 April (9.00am):**

We loaded the bus with our gear bags and set off on our first walk. We began by walking through the main streets of Lilydale making our way towards the trail beside the railway tracks. We stopped for a quick rest on the grass looking out over the Lilydale mine. It was a rather intimidating giant hole in the ground. After walking around some backstreets (guided without error by the amazing work of one of our peers) we emerged beside the Maroondah Highway. As we walked towards the highway along the grass strip the only element that caused me to remember I wasn't walking towards a forest was the noise of the cars. One of the most notable characteristics of Lilydale/Chirnside, is that regardless of how modernized it becomes, the greenery and the nature is never lost.

Our break at Chirnside Park Shopping Centre was short and we were soon walking towards the primary school. We walked around the trail before stopping for lunch. The last section of the walk was by far the most challenging. Switchback is notorious for its wave like road. Our legs were burning but we made it back to school for 1pm where we had a short break before setting off for Mt Buller.

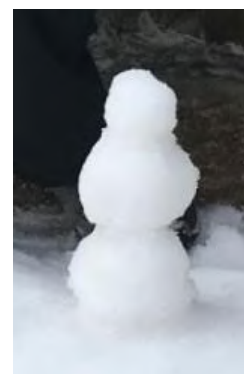
The drive was amazing. The view of Lake Eildon as we drove over the bridge was incredible. We stopped in Mansfield for a hot pie, a drink and some downtime. It was packed with families and cars towing bikes upon bikes for the weekend competition. When we got to the empty campsite our first job was to set up our tents and explore. Set right next to a small stream, all we could hear was the rushing of the water. The toilet block was across the highway next to the park, which was a 15 minute round trip, and proved to be quite stressful if you were busting.

My dinner for night one was minestrone kept in a thermos with a hot chocolate to keep my fingers warm. A swing was constructed by one of our campmates and for the next two days we had a seat. Despite the clouds blocking the stars, the moon was still able to shine through. From the highway you could see the almost full moon positioned perfectly where the mountains split in two.

### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April (6.00am):**

My sleep was interrupted multiple times last night. From the dull ache in my hip, to the screams of not-so-distant deer, the night was rather eventful. I woke up just as the sun was rising and decided to go for a walk towards the toilet block. When I returned a few of my campmates had risen and were moving around, so I made my breakfast of porridge (with milk this time), played some cards, and soon we were off to Mt Buller for the second day of our journey.

Our walk began just below the summit of Mt Buller. We saw snow! (It was more of an icy snow rather than the fluffy stuff but my snowman was immaculate nonetheless). I learnt that, as Mt Buller's promise of snow fails to always fit with nature's plans, they are very reliant on artificial snow which is made from multiple reservoirs and is shot out along the ski track. We slowly made our way up what felt like a vertical incline towards the summit. The fog hindered our ability to see, and we soon realized that we weren't able to reach the summit as it wasn't safe to do so.



Once we had walked back down to the bus, bikers began cycling up towards the trails. Our bus tire had become flat which caused a mild delay in our journey to the trail (this made me realize that I should have worn a thermal under my shirt).

We reached the starting point of our walk and the Gold group was the first to set off, however we were soon reunited when we came to a dilemma in the track. Yellow tape had clearly been put up where we planned on walking; the only issue was that it had been pulled down and we couldn't see any problems or blatant dangers. We figured the safest option would be to take the longer route and since there were few protests, the group was able to come to a decision (longer route it was).





## *Mt Buller/Mt Stirling Duke of Ed Report (continued).....*

There were occasions where mountain bikers would fly past or stop for a quick chat, and we even saw a group on horseback, but other than those few encounters we remained on our own. I found myself becoming tired, but I was quickly distracted by the group's riddles, stories, and conversations. I took a moment during the final few kilometers of the track to walk ahead of the group. During this time, I reflected on our journey, figured out what I could do to improve on the walk that awaited us the following day and enjoyed the sounds of the forest.

Later we had a game of cricket in the park using a fallen light reflector from the highway as stumps and a log as a bat. Saturday night's dinner consisted of pasta, jerky, and some twiggy sticks courtesy of Bailey. Later that evening we saw a possum watching us from the tree we ate our meals under. It made its way down from the tree and began sniffing around (it was barely a meter from me).

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April:**

As it was the last day of our camp, we woke up early and began our group pack-up. As there were families now in the camp site, we were trying our best to be quiet. We had a quick breakfast and set off for Mt Stirling with an aim to make it to the summit for the minute of silence.

It was quite a formidable climb during that first section of our walk to the summit. Our break intervals increased to ensure we stayed as a group and there were detours when a climbable rock was spotted. Along the steep trails we saw giant worms (their size a result of lack of birds in the area we assumed). We also came across multiple cabins which contained non-perishable food collected and stored throughout the years, wood, a fireplace, supplies and notebooks containing letters, notes, and stories from hikers and others who had wandered through dating back to the start of the 90's.



Despite the two groups setting off in different directions, the fluctuating temperatures and the rocky, vertical terrain (which made me reconsider my fitness levels), both groups were able to reunite at the summit of Mt Stirling before the minute silence. Looking out, at the rolling mountains which surrounded us was the most amazing place to have the minute silence. Once we walked down the mountain and loaded ourselves back into the minivan we rode into Mansfield for afternoon tea before returning home.

The comparison we made between Mt Buller and Mt Stirling is that Buller is very artificial/man made whereas Stirling is far more natural and preserving of the already present wildlife.

Overall, we walked over 50 kilometres across the three days in various types of terrain and weather. Just like all the Duke of Ed camps, I learnt so much about the environment, strengthened bonds with my camp mates and improved on my own journey. For future hikes and explorations I'd like to improve on my ability to prepare for all types of weather. I'd like to have a better packed day pack and be more organized with my food clean up.





## CAFÉ CULTURE

Café Culture students did a wonderful job running two Pink Picnics for Mother's Day. I was really impressed with their maturity and enthusiasm. Great job everyone.



Sharon Francis – Foods Department.



## KITCHEN GARDEN

It has been a busy time in the veggie garden this term. Students have harvested lettuce, bok choy, beetroot, basil, silverbeet and parsley. They have also planted seedlings of red and green cabbage, kale, oregano, sage, thyme, broccoli, celery and carrot seeds. We have even set up mushroom growing kits. The Common Assessment Task for the term was to use one or many of the vegetables, herbs or donated fruits to design and make a dish. The results were spectacular with a range of different sweet and savoury dishes being produced. It has been wonderful to watch the skills and confidence of the students grow throughout this semester.

Shannon Sargeant – Sustainability Leader.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL EARTH & SPACE EVENING EXCURSION TO MOUNT BURNETT OBSERVATORY

On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May, we were very nervous as the clouds rolled in and out throughout the day. Were we going to be able to see the stars/moon/ satellites in the sky?

We took over 20 students to the observatory and they really got involved in the session. Unfortunately the conditions were a little cloudy, but students were exposed to masses of information regarding the stars, galaxies and the technology in which we can track them. Parts of the cloud cleared during the evening and we saw some amazing views of the moon; there were many gasps at the closeness of it through the telescope. We even managed to take some photos on our phones through the telescopes.

The students were extremely polite and respectful, asking questions and getting fully involved. The presenters commented that we had a lovely bunch of students! I certainly agree and want to thank everyone that attended the event. Thanks also to the staff that helped out - Mr Chen, Mr Payne and Ms Wilkins.

Clare Rayner – Science Teacher.





## YEAR 12 AMAZING RACE

The Year 12 VCE and VCAL students headed into the CBD for a day to complete an Amazing Race! With fabulous clues set out by Ms Gentile, the groups made their way to all parts of the city, completing challenges along the way. The students recreated TikTok dances outside of Parliament, took photos with Peking Ducks and some even discovered the wonders of the free NGV Art Gallery! Everyone involved had a fantastic day. Thanks to Ms Gentile for making it such a winner!

Emma Steeper – Senior School Leader





## FIRST NATIONS OF LHC

We officially launched the Collaborative Indigenous Strategy with all six schools in the Lilydale and Upper Yarra Education Plan, with the Minister of Education, James Merlino, MP for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing and Wurundjeri elder, Murrindindi. The strategy is designed for the six schools to work together to support the individual needs of First Nations students, as well as authentically embedding and celebrating First Nations culture and perspectives in our school community and curriculum.

Our two deadly students, Ryekan Jones and Tahlia Tweedie received the coolamon and the message stick at the launch. A coolamon is a traditional method of carrying, and it is our students who are the ones that will carry our culture, history and perspectives forward for future generations. The message stick symbolises our need to share culture amongst our schools and community. The coolamon and the message stick will be used at our Yarning Circles that are held each term.

National Reconciliation Week began on 27 May and ends 3 June! This week is about acknowledging and learning about our shared histories, cultures and achievements. Through reconciliation, we recognise that First Nations people were dispossessed, persecuted and oppressed as a result of invasion in Australia. At the College, each SELF class from Year 7 to 12 will learn about the importance of reconciliation through a range of engaging and interactive activities. Thanks to the wonderful Sharon Francis and Annie Wilkins, the Valleydale Café will be running a National Reconciliation Week menu with a range of Indigenous inspired dishes and flavours. This week-long celebration is an ideal opportunity for all Australians to explore the ways that they can join the reconciliation effort, and we are proud to be facilitating these opportunities at Lilydale Heights College.



Tanna Draper Nagas - First Nations Advocate.



## YEAR 9 CAREERS EXPO

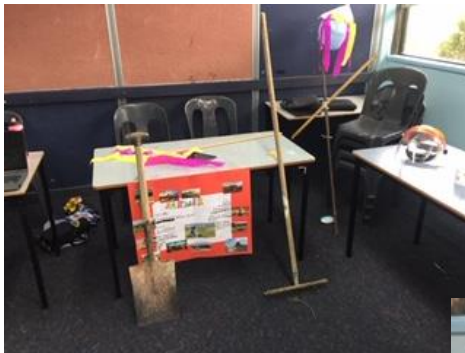
During the week of 10th - 14th May all Year 9 students participated in the Year 9 Careers Expo. This involved a series of activities throughout the week to develop students' knowledge of Careers Education.

Students worked in small groups to investigate a career of their choice and then present their findings to the Year 7 and 8 students in the annual Careers Expo! It was fantastic to see students developing their research, teamwork and communication skills throughout the week.

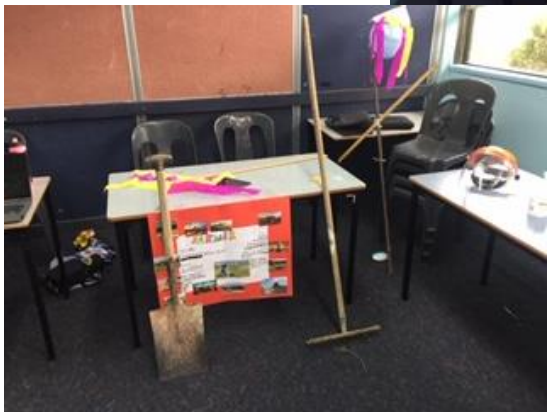
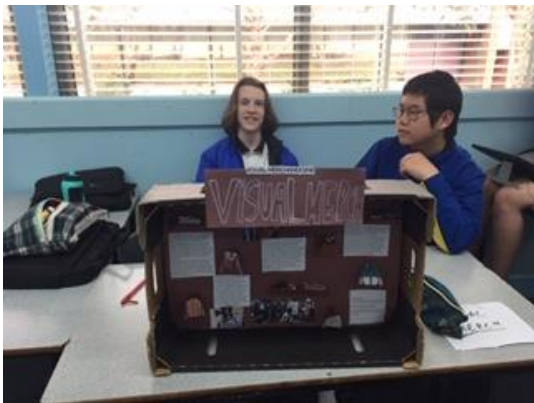
The week also involved some guest speakers from different careers presenting to the Year 9 students. Congratulations to Ben O'Connor for expertly hosting a Q & A session for our guests.

Congratulations to all students and a massive thank you to staff for running the week.

Jason Boyce – Middle School Learning Leader.



Year 9 Careers Expo (continued)...





## WORK EXPERIENCE/CAREERS

### Year 10 Work Experience

During May our Year 10 students participated in the Work Experience Program. This allowed students to gain an insight into various industries and careers such as working in a hospital, a café, a real estate agent's office or a local primary school. Many students also worked in local trades such as electrical, automotive, plumbing and cabinet making. This opportunity is hugely valuable for students to see the realities of working life and the different occupations within a single organisation. We thank parents and students for their positive engagement with the program, as well as the employers who took the time to induct and supervise students while on placement. Thank you also to the LHC staff for supporting students to find a placement and contacting students during the week to see how they were progressing.

Juliet Honey - Careers Coordinator.

### A Guide to Students' Employment Rights and Responsibilities

There are laws employers must follow when employing people under 15. The government can fine employers if they don't follow these laws. You can get help if you are:

- working too many hours
- not getting the pay, breaks or superannuation you should be
- doing a job you shouldn't be

#### *Am I old enough to work?*

This depends. If you're under 15, there are fewer jobs you can do and you can't work as long. For most jobs, the employer and supervisor of anyone under 15 must have a Child Employment Permit and a Working with Children Check.

#### **Under 11**

You can work in a family business or in the entertainment industry. If you work in a family business, your parents must supervise you. You can only do light work, which is work that won't hurt you in any way. You still have to be able to do your school work.

#### **From 11 to 12**

If you're 11 or 12, you can work in the entertainment industry or a family business. You can also do jobs like delivering newspapers or advertising material, or making deliveries for a pharmacy. You can only do light work. You still have to be able to do your school work.

#### **From 13 to 14**

For most type of jobs you must be 13 or older. You can only do light work. You still have to be able to do your school work. Light work might be:

- going on errands
- working in or around a house
- golf-caddying
- photocopying
- gardening
- street trading (such as at a fruit stall or mobile food van)
- delivering newspapers, pamphlets or other advertising material
- making deliveries for a registered pharmacist
- working as a sales assistant in a shop
- entertainment
- farm work

Your boss can't get you to:

- sell door-to-door
- work on a fishing boat that does not operate on inland waters
- work in building and construction before lock-up stage

#### *How many hours can I work?*

If you're under 15 you can't work for more than three hours a day and 12 hours a week during a school term. You can't work on a school day during school hours, unless you have permission from the Education Department not to go to school. During the holidays you can only work six hours a day and 30 hours a week. These hours include rest breaks. You can

## *A Guide to Students' Employment Rights and Responsibilities (continued)...*

only work between 6 am and 9 pm. You must have a 30-minute break after every three hours of work. You must have at least a 12-hour break between shifts.

### *What is an employment contract?*

An employment **contract** is a legally binding document that sets out your conditions of work. Your rate of pay depends on your age. Never sign an employment contract until you have read it, understood it and agree with it. It's a good idea to get advice before you sign an employment contract even if you think you know what you're signing. Make sure you keep a copy of the contract. Sometimes an employment contract is oral (spoken) and not in writing. You have a right to know the pay rates before you take the job. If you have questions about employment contracts, pay and conditions, being sacked unfairly or other work problems, get advice quickly.

### *What is 'cash in hand' work?*

'Cash in hand' means that the employer doesn't take tax out of your pay. It can feel like you're earning more money. But this means you don't have any proof of being paid. This can lead to trouble if something goes wrong. The government will need proof if you go to the Fair Work Ombudsman because you were underpaid or if you go to Worksafe about a work injury. If the government finds out that you worked cash in hand, this could lead to problems with:

- Centrelink – if you get a benefit and haven't told them about the work, you could owe them money or even be charged with an **offence**
- Australian Taxation Office – if you haven't paid tax, you might owe them money
- Department of Immigration – if your visa says you can't work, you could be charged with an offence or even have to leave the country

Because the employer didn't keep a record of your work they may say you didn't work for them. Cash in hand means the employer won't pay your superannuation contributions. You could miss out on quite a lot of money.

### *What is unpaid trial work?*

Unpaid trial work is when an employer gets you to work without pay to see if you're right for the job. Sometimes employers get young people to do unpaid trial work just to get free work over a busy period like a long weekend. Unpaid trial work happens in many jobs but happens a lot in sales and in hospitality. An employer can only ask you to do some unpaid trial work if:

- they want to make sure you have the right skills
- you only work for as long as needed for you to show that skill
- you are under direct supervision the whole time

If a job doesn't need any particular skills or your unpaid trial goes too long, then it may be against the law.

### *Information accessed from:*

*"Am I old enough? Common legal issues for young people", Victorian Legal Aid, 2019.*



## Feeling Safe: For Secondary School Students

### Get the facts

This fact sheet has been designed to give you the facts about child abuse. It includes advice on what to do if you have been abused, are being abused, or are at risk of being abused. This fact sheet also provides you with advice if you know someone who has been abused, or is at risk of being abused.



### What are your rights?

- Everyone has the right to feel safe and be protected from abuse.
- No one is allowed to threaten you, hurt you, or touch you in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or afraid.
- This includes all adults, other teenagers and children – it includes everyone from family members, coaches, teachers, to friends and strangers.
- Every relationship should be respectful.
- No one should ever involve you in sexual activity without your consent, and no one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid.
- You don't have to deal with abuse on your own. Talk to a trusted adult. Teachers and other adults at your school can support you to get help.

### What is child abuse?

- Child abuse includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological harm, neglect, and family violence.
- Child abuse can also include grooming. This is behaviour where an adult tries to establish a relationship or other emotional connection with a child, to prepare them for a sexual relationship.
- Child abuse does not have to involve physical contact or force. It can include:
  - controlling a child through threats
  - exposing a child to sexual material and sexual acts
  - exposing a child to family violence.
- Child abuse can be perpetrated by any member of a community or a family member. Abuse can impact anyone and it is never the victim's fault.

For more information on sexual abuse and sexual assault visit Youth Central:  
<http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/know-your-rights/sexual-assault>.

### **What should I do if I have been abused or I feel unsafe?**

- You should talk to an adult you trust.
- If you have been abused, or feel unsafe or threatened in any way you don't have to deal with this on your own.
- Abuse is never your fault and you should tell a trusted adult so you can get the help and support you need to feel safe and protected. Talking to someone won't get you in trouble.
- You can tell a teacher or any adult at your school. They will be able to help you.

### **What should I do if I think someone I know has been abused or is unsafe?**

- You should talk to an adult you trust. Any staff member at your school will be able to help.
- You can also help your friend by encouraging them to tell a trusted adult.

### **What if my friend doesn't want to tell an adult?**

- You should still tell an adult you trust on your friend's behalf.
- Even if your friend has specifically asked you not to tell an adult, you still should. It is more important to make sure that your friend is helped and feels protected.

### **What will happen if I tell an adult at the school that I feel unsafe, or that I know someone who is unsafe?**

- You will be helped.
- Teachers and other adults at your school must listen to your concerns and help you.
- The information will not be shared with the person who is making you feel unsafe.
- Information will only be shared with people who can support and protect you.
- In some cases the people helping you are required by law to tell the police, the Department of Health and Human Services' Child Protection services and/or your family to prevent any further abuse, or risk of abuse.

### **What if I don't feel like I can talk to anyone at my school?**

- You should still find a trusted adult to talk to.
- Abuse or feeling uncomfortable is too big to deal with on your own.

### **There are many people who can support you to feel safe and protected. You can:**

- contact eHeadspace for advice online visit: [www.eheadspace.org.au/](http://www.eheadspace.org.au/)  
**Call 1800 650 890**
- contact KidsHelp Line: <https://kidshelpline.com.au/teens/> (24 hour web chat) **Call 1800 55 1800**
- Call or visit your local police station or call 000.
- Talk to your doctor, psychologist, social worker, welfare officer, or another trusted adult.

