



CONNECTIONS

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Respect, Excellence, Community

Dear Parents and guardians of Stawell Secondary College students

I would like to introduce myself as the Acting Principal for the College in term 1, 2019.

I am honoured to have been selected for this role. I love working in schools and have worked in Leadership positions at a number of schools in rural Victoria, Melbourne and the Middle East.

I am passionate about education and the services our school will provide to the community in order to give our students the opportunities to succeed in their lives. Education is key to ensuring our community prospers. I am a firm believer that hard work and perseverance leads to success. Staff at Stawell Secondary College will support students by giving them the skills to achieve.

Over this term I will be working with staff to establish a vision and a set of values for the school. Staff will be using feedback from students, parents and members of our community to establish a set of strong values which will guide our school in the process of continuous improvement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to talk about our vision or discuss your thoughts on our school.

Carlos Lopez

**Acting Principal
Stawell Secondary College**

2019 New Staff



Stawell Secondary College welcomes new staff.

Left to right -

Back Row:

Dale Harris (Art), Emma Gibson (Science), Nicholas Oliver (Science/Maths),

Middle Row:

Catherine Monument (Numeracy Support), Anne Robertson (English), Matthew Brearley (English/Humanities), Sam Burdett (English/Psychology), Carlos Lopez (Acting Principal)

Front Row:

Dal Oldaker (IT/Maths/Science/Woodwork)

Absent:

Sue Macaffer (VCAL), Katy Jewell (PE)

COMMUNITY

EXCELLENCE

RESPECT

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

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

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. Cards must be valid with Centrelink. Students can be aged from 6 – 18 years old. If a student is the holder of a Youth Allowance type card in their own name that is valid, the parents are eligible to apply for the CSEF.

The annual amount per student is \$225 for every secondary school student of eligible families. Payments will be made into the applicant's school account to use towards a child's expenses relating to camps, excursion or sporting activities.

HOW TO APPLY: Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form. A copy of your Centrelink Concession Card will be taken when you return the completed form to school. Applications need to be made by **15 March, 2019**, however the sooner you apply the sooner you will receive the funds into your account.

REMINDER: ALL APPLICANTS ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE THE SCHOOL WITH A COPY OF THEIR CURRENT HEALTH CARE CARD.

If you have any questions please contact Marie McAloon, Business Manager.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE 2019

A conveyance allowance may be paid to parents who drive their children more than 4.8km to the nearest pick up point of a free country bus service or their nearest school, where no bus service is available.

Families who currently claim a conveyance allowance with Stawell Secondary College DO need to lodge a new application for 2019.

Students who are attending Stawell Secondary College for the first time must meet the following guidelines. To be eligible for the Conveyance Allowance students must be:

1. Attending their nearest Government school.
2. Living further than 4.8km from either the school or the nearest pick up point of a free country bus.

Please contact the school office for an application form.

All eligible families must complete and **return the form to the school by 22 February 2019.**

If you require further information in regards to this please contact Mrs Marie McAloon at the College.

YEAR 7 UNIFORM PACK

In 2019 every Year 7 government school student who was a recipient of CSEF in 2018 automatically qualifies to receive a uniform pack that is provided through State Schools' Relief. If your child was a CSEF recipient in 2018 and you are yet to apply for the package, you can apply for a CSEF Year 7 Uniform Pack by contacting Stawell Secondary College and completing the order form.

You can call the General Office for more information on 53581700.

The Resilience Project Visits Stawell



In our first week back at school for the term, we were fortunate enough to have our students, staff and community members listen to Martin from the Resilience Project. The presentations were engaging for all listeners and with a number of take home messages for everyone to implement in their daily lives. The Resilience Project has three main principles: **Gratitude, Empathy/ kindness and Mindfulness** which lead individuals to improved health outcomes. Some key take home messages for each principle can look like: doing something together as a family and being present in the moment. Taking time out for yourself and practicing mindfulness e.g. meditating. Helping someone else out in a challenging time, this will greatly benefit the individual in need but also improve your wellbeing by helping others.

We are all faced with many different challenges/situations and we will, at times, need extra assistance. With this help, we can all grow and overcome these challenges, be grateful and live in the moment.

For our readers and community, we ask that you to take part practicing Gratitude on a daily basis and write down three things that went well for you during that day and re-train your brain to be positive and improve overall health.

Reminder Country Bus Users

Please make sure your child is registered on the PTV website. Schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au or call 1800800007 You have until Friday 15th February to get this done. Any further help or information please call Jo Blake SSC Bus Coordinator on 53581700.



Chinese New Year, the year of the Pig. Hope the new year brings you bundles of joy, happiness and prosperity!

Chinese teachers: He, Athena and Ling

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

6-8 February	Year 12 Study Camp - Mr Dalziel
13 February	Finance & Exec Meeting 5.30pm
21 February	Swimming Sports - Mr Burnett
27 February	School Council Meeting - 7.30
27 February	Year 7 Immunisation - Mr Hart
27 February	Year 7 BBQ - Mr Illig/Ms Mackay
3-4 March	Music Camp - Mrs Hemley

2018 Presentation Awards Thank You

Each year at Presentation Evening, we are very pleased to be able to award a variety of prizes from \$50 vouchers to \$500 scholarships to our students, in recognition of their outstanding achievements for the year.

This would not be possible without the very generous support of the donors listed below:

William East Award

Robson - Music Award (M & M Robson Family)

Ballarat Books

Swan Hill Bus Lines

Rotary

Lions Club

Dr & Mrs Cunningham

Frewstal

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water

Stawell Lotto & Books

Crowe Horwath

Stawell Wreckers

Horsham Motor Company

Christians Bus Company

JR'S U Hire and Drive

Wimmera Office Equipment

Marnoo Masonic Lodge

Stawell Regional Health

Stawell Harness Racing

CMFEU

McDonalds Family Restaurant

CGLLEN

Northern Grampians Shire Council

Our school community sincerely thanks these donors who assist our students to continue their education and support them in their transition to tertiary education. Your ongoing support of our school is invaluable.

Leaving College Grounds Policy

Rationale:

- During the school day the College assumes a duty of care for all students. Students are only able to leave the school during the day with permission from a Parent/Guardian/Carer.
- For student protection and school accountability, the Department of Education and Training insist that an accurate record of student absence is maintained. This is the responsibility of both the College and the parent/guardian and carer.

Implementation:

Leaving School Grounds

Appropriate permission for leaving the school may be granted according to one of the following circumstances. A Parent/Guardian/Carer may request permission to be granted in advance.

- Via a note written and signed by a Parent/Guardian/Carer clearly stating the reason for leaving the school and given to the General Office.
- A message via the Parent portal to the General Office.
- A phone call from the Parent/Guardian/Carer to the General Office.

In the case of an unplanned request, Parent/Guardian/Carers may request permission in person or via the phone to the General Office (5358 1700). Students leaving the College must sign in/out via the Kiosk at the General Office.

Permanent Lunch Pass

Parents/Guardians/Carers can apply to the College in writing for a lunch pass via a Lunch Pass Form available from the General Office. The Principal will determine whether a Lunch pass will be issued under one of the following criteria:

- The student resides within 1000m (1km) of the School, to make going home for lunch and returning to school timely (students cannot drive or use a motorised bike to travel home).
- The student has a medical reason supported by documentation.
- The Principal deems that it will support the Wellbeing of the student.

If a Lunch Pass is approved, they will be issued with a laminated card, conditions of use include:

- The student must sign in/out via the Kiosk at the General Office.
- The student must carry their pass with them at all times when out of the school.
- The student must only go to and from their place of residence.
- The student must present their Lunch Pass to staff when requested.

Any breach of these conditions will result in the Lunch Pass being revoked.



Helpers Wanted



Stawell Secondary College is looking for parent helpers to assist with the Swimming Sports Carnival on **Thursday 21 February**.

The sports will run all day at the Stawell Leisure Complex from (9:00am – 3:30pm).

No experience is necessary, nor do you need to be there for the entire time.

Please contact Zac Burnett at the school on 53581700 to register your interest.

Additionally if parents/guardians/etc are interested in coming along to watch the sports they are more than welcome.

Hats Hats Hats

A reminder to all students that everyone must wear a hat during recess and lunch. New hats can be purchased at the canteen for \$15. Students should write their names in the space inside the hat. These hats are part of the school uniform and cannot have graffiti on them. Any questions please contact your students Home Group Teacher.



Year 11 & 12 Assessment Dates

All assessment dates have begun to be added into a Google Doc that can be accessed by all teachers, students and parents. Assessment Dates will be updated each week to ensure everyone is aware of what is happening and any changes. Parents and students have been sent the links via the Parent Portal messaging system. **Ms Francis**

Stawell Secondary College Careers

Reminders

VET Classes Commence Tuesday 5th February

Reminder that VET classes start this week

All students have been notified of this and also given information of bus travel to Ararat College (if applicable)

VET classes commence at 9.30am and finish at 2.30pm (full school uniform unless otherwise advised)

VCAL Work Placement

All Year 11 & 12 VCAL students have been given a work placement booklet to assist them in finding a placement. This year work placement day has moved to a Wednesday.

VCAL students do not attend school Wednesdays (even if they do not have a work placement as yet)

VCAL students enrolled in both VET Automotive and VET Body Repair do not need to undertake work placement (but can in school holidays if they wish)

Students are NOT allowed to commence work placement unless Cindy Bibby has notified them of their start date and all paperwork has been completed - no exceptions.

Cindy Bibby | Registrar

Mobile: 0475 958 258

✉ bibby.cindy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Music 2019



The Music Department is now taking enrolments for 2019. Instruments currently on offer include Flute, Clarinet, Alto and Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Euphonium and Tuba. Please contact Mrs Hemley through the school if you have any questions. Enrolment forms can be collected from the General Office.