



# CONNECTIONS

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Respect, Excellence, Community

## Principal's Report

As the term progresses it is important to remind all parents/guardians that our parent teacher sessions will be on Thursday April 4 (evening) and Friday April 5 (day). These are important sessions in which valuable feedback from teachers can be obtained about the progress of our students as well as ways in which improvements can be achieved and sustained. Staff are currently looking at ways in which these sessions can be more effective in terms of times of the day and structure of the sessions. Parents will have access to feedback forms in order to have your say about Parent Teacher sessions.

I would like to also ask any parents to join me for parent focus sessions through which you can give Stawell Secondary College feedback about the service we are providing, what we are doing well and how we can improve. To this end, if you are interested in these sessions please email me at [lopez.carlos.c@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:lopez.carlos.c@edumail.vic.gov.au) and title your email PARENT FOCUS. I would love to hear from you and will schedule these ½ hour sessions for late term 1 or early term 2.

School Council is also open for nominations. We are asking parents to be involved in the governance of the school by joining school council. This is a very important role through which parents can have a say on the governance of our school as well as the strategic direction for the next few years. 2019 is a whole school review year, this will give us a great opportunity to improve on aspects such as teaching and learning, student management and the opportunities that our students are offered at the senior school. Please nominate for one of these positions as I would love to work with you to make this school one of the best in Rural Victoria.

**Carlos Lopez**

**Acting Principal  
Stawell Secondary College**

### Year 9 Chinese Language Reminder

An urgent reminder to all Year 9 Chinese Language students and parents that we will hold the VYLC (Victorian Young Leaders to China Program) Information Night on 13<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00pm in Year 7 Hub. Notes have been handed out to all of Year 9 Chinese Language students. Look forward to seeing you there.

### Parents as Allies in Reducing Absences

Chronic absenteeism is one of the biggest barriers to school success. Parents can be powerful allies in preparing students for a lifetime of success by making regular school attendance a priority. Parental beliefs about attendance can reduce student absences and pave the way for academic success. Going to school everyday is the single most important part of your teenager's education.

RESPECT

EXCELLENCE

COMMUNITY

**2019 Stawell Secondary College Swimming Carnival  
Winners: Mackenzie House**



## **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

<b>8 March</b>	<b>Physics Luna Park - Mr Oliver</b>
<b>11 March</b>	<b>Public Holiday-Labour Day</b>
<b>13 March</b>	<b>Finance and Executive Meeting - 5.30pm</b>
<b>19 March</b>	<b>Year 10 Chinese Museum - Ms Ling</b>
<b>22 March</b>	<b>Athletics Carnival - Mr Burnett</b>
<b>27 March</b>	<b>School Council Meeting - 7.30pm</b>
<b>29 March</b>	<b>Math Olympics - Mrs Bibby</b>
<b>4 April</b>	<b>Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews - Mr Hart</b>
<b>5 April</b>	<b>Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews - Mr Hart</b>
<b>29 April</b>	<b>YR11&amp;12 Top Art &amp; Design - Mr Harris</b>
<b>8 May</b>	<b>YR 11 Outdoor Ed Bike/Climbing Camp - Mr Burnett</b>
<b>9 May</b>	<b>YR10 Outdoor Ed Bike/Climbing Camp - Mr Burnett</b>

### **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 8 March 2019** at the latest.

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

### **Student Accident Insurance**

Parents/Guardians are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the costs of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport cost.

Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers such as EBM. These insurers cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

Information forms from EBM can be obtained from the General Office.

### **All Students Friday 22 March**

#### **Stawell Secondary College Athletics Carnival**

Students will be required at North Park Athletic Track at 8.45am and will be dismissed at 3.20pm. Students can wear casual dress to support their House.

Hats are required to be worn. A BBQ lunch can be purchased on the day. Parents and family are most welcome. Country buses will drop off and collect students from North park.



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## Stawell Secondary College Careers

### Reminders

#### Year 10 Work Experience

This year's work experience week is 24-28 June, 2019 (Last week of Term 2)  
Students are to have found a placement and let Cindy know where by 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2019

#### Defence Force Recruiting is Coming to Horsham

289, Baillie Street  
HORSHAM VIC 3400

#### 1. Presentation

Welcome and introductions

Information about the recruiting process, eligibility, suitability & availability, avenues of entry and so much more

#### 2. Aptitude Test

- A general ability or reasoning test, and mathematical ability test
- Helps determine which service and position(s) you are most likely to be suited to

To help prepare you for an aptitude test, use the link below. <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/help-centre/documents-and-brochures>

#### 3. Career Mentoring

- During your time with your career mentor, you'll be given a Job Opportunity Report identifying the roles you may be eligible to apply for (subject to satisfying eligibility requirements)

General discussion around your level of interest in pursuing a career with the ADF

**HOW TO BOOK** call 13 19 01

#### 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 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.

#### Employment Opportunities

##### School Based Apprenticeship

Agriculture – cropping and livestock

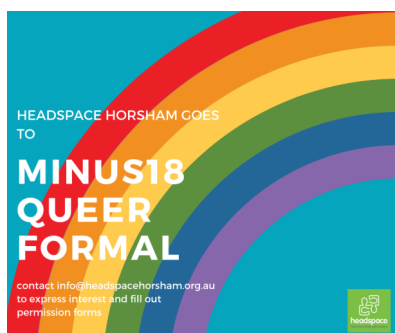
Goroke area – 2 days per week

Closes: 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

**Cindy Bibby | Registrar**

Mobile: 0475 958 258 email: [bibby.cindy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:bibby.cindy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## MINUS18 Queer Formal



Headspace Horsham are heading to the Minus18 Queer Formal again this year, and we would like to invite anyone between the ages of 13 – 19 who identifies as a member of the LGBTIQ+ community.

Please contact Maddi or Liz at headspace on 5381 1543 if you have any questions, and let students know that they can collect a form from headspace or email [info@headspacehorsham.org.au](mailto:info@headspacehorsham.org.au) to receive a copy.

## Resilience Project Implementation

This week we will begin to implement the Resilience Project Curriculum to our students. We are looking forward to developing the resilience in our students as it is a great skill for life. At home you can talk to your child about the things you are grateful for during that day. Discuss failures and how you have overcome and learnt from them. The Resilience Project has just released a new 6 Month Journal with a few new additions: Undated (so you can begin at any time), daily reflections, daily questions and daily healthy behaviours checklist. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school or visit the Resilience Project website <https://theresilienceproject.com.au/>



## Screen Time Usage



iPhones now have a new feature 'Screen Time'. This is a very useful feature which maps how long your child is spending on their phone and on certain apps. The last couple of days I have been asking students what is their average screen time usage over the past week, some students have had an average of 7 hours on their phone each day! This is almost equivalent to a working day. As I explored this feature in further detail, you are able to schedule 'downtime' which sets a time away from the screen and only certain apps can be used during this time. For Android users, an app called 'Space' can be downloaded and used in the same way. It is important that our students put their phones down and be present in the moment with the people who are around them. When our eyes are on the screens, we are looking down and missing out on the amazing and beautiful features that we have around us!

## Animation workshop

On Friday 1 March HANNAH FRENCH film maker and animator visited our college to talk to our Year11 VCE Studio Arts students about her early life in the country town of Natimuk. She talked about the teachers and mentors that inspired her to take up a career in the Arts, and her career pathway since at university and then overseas.

During her illustrated talk she discussed her work and encouraged students to follow their passion as she had done, finding meaning and inspiration through observation of the changing world around her.

Now responsible for the upcoming Natimuk Frinj Festival, Hannah is collecting short animations from a number of schools that she has workshopped to be shown at a public screening in April. Hannah suggested a number of animation and editing programs that she finds very helpful, and the students made a short and spontaneous animation to round off the two hour session.



## Chinese New Year

To create a more festive Chinese New Year atmosphere, Year 10 Chinese language students organised some workshops for year 7 students during lunch time in week 3. The workshops were paper cutting, origami, making Chinese lanterns and red envelopes. Well done Year 10 Chinese class and good effort to the Year 7 participants! Ms Ling



yīnwéishìzhōngguóchūnjié shàngzhōu sān wǒ men shí nián jí de zhōng wén bān xué shēng yì qǐ bāo le jiǎo zi

因为是中国春节，上周三我们十年级的中文班学生一起包了饺子。

Because of China's spring festival, last Wednesday we Year 10 Chinese class students made dumplings together.

jiǎo zǐ bù hǎo bāo dàn shì bāo jiǎo zǐ hěn hǎo wán yě hěn hǎo chī

饺子不好包，但是包饺子很好玩，也很好吃。

Making dumplings is not easy, but very fun. Dumplings were also very yummy.

wǒ men zì jǐ róu miàn zuò xià niǎn gǎn jiǎo zǐ pí

我们自己揉面，做馅儿，擀饺子皮。

We made the dough, done the filling, rolled out the dumpling covers.

wǒ hěn xǐ huān chī jiǎo zǐ dàn shì wǒ zhǐ chī liǎng ge jiǎo zǐ tài shǎo le

我很喜欢吃饺子，但是我只吃了两个饺子，太少了！

I really like to eat dumplings, but I only ate 2 dumplings, not enough!

wǒ men hái xiǎng zài bāo jiǎo zǐ kě yǐ ma

我们还想再包饺子，可以吗？

We also would like to make dumplings again, could we?

By Year 10 Chinese Language Students



### Book of the Week Mirrored Author: Alex Flinn

“YOU’RE IN DANGER. YOU’RE IN DANGER, AND YOU MUST LEAVE THAT HOUSE.”

Goose says, “What kind of danger?”

I look at my hand. It glows in the flashing pink jukebox lights. I wonder if this is how it feels to be on drugs.

I say, ‘My stepmother is a witch.’

Goose laughs, but an uncomfortable laugh. “Yeah, my mom can be a witch sometimes too.”

“You are using the term witch in a derogatory way?” Kendra straightens her shoulders.

“Is there any other way?” Goose looks confused.

“A literal way,” Kendra says. “For someone who has magic powers and can use them for either good or evil.”

