



Gleneagles College

Newsletter

15 December, 2020

www.gleneagles.vic.edu.au | Reema Boulevard, Endeavour Hills VIC 3802 | T: 9708 1319 | F: 9708 1324

PRINCIPAL NEWS

This is our last Newsletter for the year and it brings to an end a year that didn't turn quite turn out the way we thought it would back in February.

With the vacation now within reach I want to once again thank you for the support you have shown the College over the last year. I know we all had to learn so much about ourselves and living with the global pandemic and there were times when we were at the mercy of events beyond our control.

I am convinced that the College, and most importantly our students, will come out of this year stronger than ever. Next year we are putting in place additional programs for our students to ensure that they are happy, healthy and resilient. Many students did really well in remote learning but we know some young people struggled with their learning and we will be providing additional tutor support for individual students next year.

In the last couple of weeks we have had news of major funding for a Senior School Centre – see below for more information - and additional new classrooms spaces for 2021. You might also like to know that we are starting a complete renovation of our classrooms including new furniture – this is a huge project and will take time and students will be able to feel pride in their learning environment.

Early in the New Year I will be able to share with you news of our new teaching and learning programs and most importantly the new staff who are joining the College in 2021. This is a very exciting time to be part of the Gleneagles community and I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Christmas and the vacation will mean different things to different groups within our diverse community. Whatever you do I hope the coming weeks provide an opportunity for you and your family to reflect on the year and re-charge your batteries ready for the new opportunities 2021 brings.

MAJOR BUILDING PROJECT

You will have seen in my recent COMPASS post that the College has been allocated funding in the 2020 State Budget to build a Senior School Centre. As part of the early planning for this project I have been seeking the views of students and parents on the future direction of the College.

I would be interested to get your feedback on the following questions;

- What do you love most about your school?
- Is there anything that is getting in the way of delivering the best educational outcomes at this school?
- Do you have any ideas for what the school should do more of/ start doing?
- How do we best equip our students to be life-long learners?
- Do you feel that all students at our school feel free to be themselves? Does our school do enough to celebrate all forms of diversity in our community?
- Think of places where you and others in your community come together: What are the features of these places which you think create a comfortable environment for everyone (a space that is inclusive and physically comfortable)? Which of these features should be incorporated into the design of the school?
- What types of actions does your school take to encourage all members of the school community to do things together? Do you believe these actions help to create a supportive community?

Please send your responses to: buildingproject@gleneagles.vic.edu.au

Simon Sherlock | Principal

VCAL BBQ – 4 DECEMBER

On Friday 4 December, the VCAL team held a celebration BBQ for all Year 10 students transitioning into Year 11 in 2021.

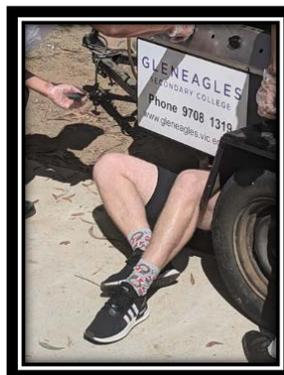
The 2021 VCAL team planned and conducted the event from start to finish. Students divided themselves into teams and assigned their roles for the major aspects of running this event.

It was fantastic to see all the year 10 students enjoying a sausage, egg or both before they began their final day of Transition classes.

Congratulations to the VCAL students and teachers who went above and beyond to make their first event successful.

On behalf of the Year 10 Team Leaders, I would like to wish all the Year 10 students a safe and happy holiday.

Tim Pearson | Year 10 Team Leader



VCE GERMAN CLASS – 14 DECEMBER

This year, our German VCE students were given the chance to work with a German assistant, Berit Böhling, who arrived from Germany to help them with their German speaking skills and gain experience teaching in the classroom. Throughout the year, Berit has constantly worked with our German classes to help them improve their German skills and has given them valuable knowledge about German culture and traditions, as well as spoken about life as a native German. Through the difficult times this year, she's been a solid support, helping the students with their speaking practice online via Teams, giving them feedback and doing one-on-one interviews, created fun games for them to participate in and made German enjoyable with her cheerful and encouraging presence.

She has assisted tirelessly the Year 11 and 12 classes with their German throughout the year and been a big help in guiding them to work towards their final exam, as well as giving valuable advice to our year 7-10 German classes in developing their skills. Her effort here at Gleneagles has livened the German culture at the school by opening our student's eyes to what learning a new language entails and the opportunities one gains. Our students have made a great friend this year and they will really miss her. Herzlichen Dank Berit, für alles, dass du für uns getan hast. Wir werden dich wirklich vermissen!



Wir werden dich wirklich vermissen!

Cristina Iacoban | LOTE Teacher

2020 ABCN DIGITAL EMPOWER PROGRAM

On Thursday 10 December, eleven year 9 and 10 students participated in the inaugural launch of a partnership of mentoring between Gleneagles and the Australian Business Community Network, which aims to link learners with business. Our students were incredibly professional and their confidence grew over the 2 hour mentoring session from real estate company Stockland and manufacturers BlueScope Steel. Below are some comments from students and mentors on the experience.

STUDENT COMMENTS

The most useful thing I learnt:

- To keep an open mind.
- Creating lists can help to prioritise and keep you aware of the things you would like to achieve.
- Learning different parts of resilience.
- Understanding how people overcame failures and didn't let it stop them in life.
- How to build yourself up again after failing.

How will you apply it in your daily life?

- I'll keep trying hard.
- Going into next year I am doing a VCE subject early so I will make lists to help me both prioritise that subject but also make sure I don't get overwhelmed and finish everything I need to.
- To really look and communicate with the people around me.
- Try the strategies that the mentor recommended.
- Be persistent and keep trying, there is always something for you.

What is the most important thing you learnt?

- To keep an open mind and persevere.
- That we have time to work out what we would like to do, try new things and find the job that suits us best. It's ok to give something a go and for it to not work out but at the same time you have to go for what you want even if it may seem difficult because otherwise you may regret it.
- To not feel pressured, to enjoy both work and our personal interests.
- Not letting fear overcome what you want to do in life.
- There is always another way.

Why would you recommend the program?

- It's a great experience to get an insight into the industry.
- I learnt so much more than what I was expecting and it has made everything I wasn't sure about very clear. I also felt super relaxed and comfortable on zoom because my mentors were very welcoming.
- It was very inspirational and helpful.
- I would recommend the workshop because you can relate with certain things and use that to help you.
- It's a great learning experience and builds up confidence.

Anything else you would like to tell us?

- ALL THE THINGS I LEARNT - If you are doing a job you don't like it is ok to move on but make sure to take with you the skills you learnt while being in that job. - It's important to enjoy what you do - It's ok to take a timeout and reflect - Asking for help is important - Explain your situation to people and own up to your mistakes (people will respect you more) - Assess your values! - Everyone works/learns differently and it's important to respect that - It's important to try things out to work out if you like them or not because lots of the time you just stumble upon a job that is made for you. - Jobs aren't always about making money.
- It was very helpful, thank you.
- Mentors were AMAZINGGGG

MENTOR COMMENTS

- The students were so keen to learn - really encouraging.
- The kids are really appreciative of the support that you give and the feeling is very rewarding.
- Being able to be a mentor and providing advice for the kids has made me feel like I've made a valuable and rewarding contribution.
- I wish it was on more often!

IMPORTANT DATES

Mark your
calendar!

Thursday 17 December	Bursar CLOSED for payments
Friday 18 December	END OF TERM 4 Bursar CLOSED for payments
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS Enjoy your break	
Wednesday 20 January	Bursar OPEN for payments from today Campion Book Collection 2.00pm – 5.00pm in The Shed
Tuesday 26 January	Australia Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 27 January	TERM 1, 2021 Curriculum Day – students not required at school
Thursday 28 January	All Students Return to School Orientation Week
Tuesday 9 February	Year 7 BBQ Senior Boys and Girls Cricket
Friday 12 February	Swimming Sports Carnival
Monday 15 February	All ages Softball and Baseball
Wednesday 17 February	School Photos

SUMMER READING CLUB

Ages
3-16

Prizes
to be
won!

Join Casey Cardinia Libraries
Summer Reading Challenge
and keep busy reading over
the holidays.

Get reading,
challenge ends
Friday 22
January

Register now and track your
progress online or drop into your
local library and pick up your
Reading Challenge sheet to
track your progress.



Casey
Cardinia
Libraries

ccl.vic.gov.au/summer-reading-club/

