

LOWANNA NEWS

Issue 2

18 February 2016

Coming Up...

19 February

Year 12 Chemistry Excursion

23 February

Middle School Boys Inter-School Cricket

25 February

Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion to Parliament House

26 February

Year 9 Outdoor Ed Jump & Climb Excursion

1 March

District Swimming

3 March

Year 7 Immunisations

4 March

Year 8 Boys Inter-school Cricket

7 March - 9 March

Year 7 Camp - Group 1

9 March - 11 March

Year 7 Camp - Group 2

10 March

Year 11 Legal Studies Excursion

Important Reminder to Parents

When picking up your child during school hours, please report to reception. Parents should not go directly to any of the mini schools.

Principals Report



School Council Nominations

I would like to remind all parents that the nomination process for Parent Representatives on school council are currently open. We have four positions available and I strongly recommend that if you have an interest in developing policies that will benefit your child's please consider nominating. The timeline for nominations was included in the previous newsletter.

School Uniform Update

Parents are reminded that the new Lowanna Polo shirt is now available at Beleza. Any parent that purchased the old polo shirt after November 16 last year can take the shirt back and replace it for the new shirt for the difference in price.

I am aware that there have been some comments made about the top and a lack of consultation with students and parents. I can assure all in our community that the process for change has clearly been communicated on numerous occasions through this newsletter and through our Facebook page. It was also

clearly communicated at the three Parent Forums that were run towards the end of last year. We have sent out expressions of interest for parents to be involved in a uniform committee. Three parents took up the option. Students have been widely consulted through the SRC and by asking opinions on the changes.

Naturally not everyone will agree with the changes but our intention is to lessen the number of items parents have to pay for over the time of their student's schooling and to provide a smarter and more mature uniform. We have not endeavoured to make it more like a private school as has been suggested. This is a total misrepresentation of what we are trying to achieve.

Many people have also been asked about the availability of the new jackets. To the best of our knowledge they will be available by the end of first term or early second term at the latest. Those parents that have paid the Essential Charges Fees by the end of term 1 will be able to receive a new jacket at a heavily discounted price. Please

keep in mind that the timelines for availability are currently out of our control but the suppliers are endeavouring to meet our dates.

Finally, there is no compulsion to be wearing all of the new uniform before 2018. We are still working on the design of the other uniform items and parents are again invited to provide feedback and have an input.

Smooth Start

Can I take this opportunity to thank all of the students and staff for ensuring this has been a smooth start to the school year? Despite some minor incidents, it has been the smoothest start many people can remember. Our new Behaviour Norms are in place and I would ask all parents to re-inforce the values to their children and to read carefully the expected behaviours of parents. As a community we all need to be aware of respectful relationships and the new behaviour norms for students, staff and parents are based on the value of 'mutual respect'.

School Council Election

As is the case each year members of the parent community and staff are invited to nominate for positions on school council. The College is also able to nominate community members to fill some positions on council. In 2016 we have 4 parent vacancies and 3 staff vacancies to fill. I encourage any interested parent to contact me should they want more information about school council and what it requires. A Schedule 4 (Notice of Election and Call for Nominations) will be included as an attachment to this newsletter. Below is the timetable for the process:

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION PROCESS AND TIMETABLE

	EVENT	DATE
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Monday, 8th February 2016 Nomination forms will be available at the General Office
b)	Closing date for nominations	Monday, 22 February 2016
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Wednesday, 24 February 2016
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Monday, 29 February 2016
e)	Close of ballot	Monday, 7 March 2016
f)	Vote count	Tuesday 8th March 2016
g)	Declaration of poll	Wednesday 9th March 2016
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt Community members (the principal will preside)	Monday 14th March 2016
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Monday 14th March 2016

Lowanna Swimming Carnival

HOUSE CAPTAINS 2016		
ERICA	Jack Hudson	Jemma Colgrave
NARRACAN	Bree Anderson	Carley Van Der Pluym
LATROBE	Gabby Powell	Alex Skinner
TYERS	Kane Degruchy	Bec Emslie
STRZLECKI	Sofie Disisto	Noah Kane
POWER	Mitchell Luck	Tayla Davis
McMILLAN	Loren Bek	Li Hao Reid
TANJIL	Hailey Davy	Katrina Burns

We couldn't have asked for better weather for the Lowanna Swimming Carnival last week! Well done to all of those students who participated in the diving, swimming and novelty events and those who came along to show their support.

This year Erica scooped the pool, by only 9 points over Narracan (who incidentally scored 50 bonus points for consuming the most sausages).

Well done Erica! Here are the results...

1. Erica509
2. Narracan500
3. Latrobe353
4. Power339
5. Strzelecki331
6. Tyers324
7. McMillan309
8. Tanjil131



Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Lowanna College

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4pm on 22 February 2016.

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on 22 February 2016.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

Parent member (x 4 positions) From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018.

DET employee member (x 3 positions) From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018.

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Brett Windsor, Principal



Year 7 Immunisations

Reminder:

Parents of year 7 students are reminded to return the immunisation forms as soon as possible!

Meet our Junior Leaders!



Congratulations to our new Junior School SRC members for 2016.

Year 7

Charli Abbott
Bailey Leicester
Kyle Grech-Vella
Saxon Stavlic

Year 8

Jack Douglas
Lachlan Watt
Nyachou Gawar
Georgie Mercer

The SRC members were elected by students at each year level and are committed to continuing the tradition of providing a voice for the students within the College's community. They serve as role models for other students in areas such as behaviour, attendance, attitude and uniform. They work as a team to identify issues of concern and to raise funds and awareness in relation to various causes.

WEP INFO SESSIONS

LEARN ABOUT OUR NOT-FOR-PROFIT EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO 25 COUNTRIES

Sale

Wellington
Entertainment Centre
100 Foster Street
Time: 7:00-8:30pm

23 February



Did you know? Many WEP programs offer included program extras! Are you dreaming of wandering the streets of Rome, New York City or Paris with new friends? How about learning Spanish in Argentina, sightseeing in Belgium or soaking up Thai culture in Bangkok? It's all possible!

Come along to an Info Session to find out about the opportunities available to you!

RSVP on our website, Facebook/worldeducationprogramaustralia or at info@wep.org.au!

wep.org.au

1300 884 733

info@wep.org.au

JOIN A COMMUNITY OF GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP AND LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

As Abraham Lincoln once wrote : " the best way to predict the future is to create it." Volunteer to host an international high school student from France arriving into Australia in May 2016 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and see the world in a new light. You'll have fun learning about cultural differences and language.

Carefully selected students from France will arrive in mid May for one term. With excellent English language skills, they will attend a local Secondary High School, arrive, with their own spending money and comprehensive health insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. To enquire about becoming a volunteer host family visit us at www.scce.com.au email scceaustr@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 for more information.

Italian, French and Spanish students urgently seeking host families

Students of the World is an organisation that specialises in placing **French, Spanish and Italian students** with Australian families for a short term schooling & homestay experience.

Students of the World/World Student Travel also specialises in taking **Australian school groups or individual students overseas**.

We would like to offer your school community the opportunity to host **Italian, French or Spanish students** aged between 14 and 18 years. These students would stay with families from your school. They would live and experience the Australian lifestyle and schooling with your students.

- **Italian students** arrive on the **20th June** and depart either on the **15th August** or the **10th September**.
- **French students** arrive either the **6th July** or the **16th July** and depart **28 August**.
- **Spanish students** arrive the **10th July** and depart the **20th September**,

Students of the World provides a (one time) donation between \$400 and \$600 per student depending on their length of stay. Many schools use this donation to support programs within the **LOTE department**. We also provide host families with a donation of the same amount.

Not only is this program a wonderful opportunity to practice language, furthermore it is a great chance to grow an understanding of and empathy for a different culture and an opportunity to form lifelong friendships.

The team at **Students of the World** will work with your school and the host families to ensure the hosting experience is rewarding for all involved.

What we do:

- **Help host families choose a student suited to their family.**
- **Provide 24-hour support to the student, host family and school.**
- **We also organise and pay for working with children/police checks, reference checks and visit each family.**
- **Provide an in-depth orientation on the behavioural expectations and rules.**

Once the student arrives, teachers at your school are required to help with the selection of subjects to study and help them settle into the school routine.

A representative from **Students of the World** is more than happy to come and speak to you and your students about the benefits of hosting and/or **visiting France, Italy or Spain** for their own personalised cultural visit.

Yours Sincerely,
Penny Maitland

In Years 7-10, students miss on average almost every term - that's four weeks of school per year.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Secondary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

It's never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when

attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – When students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx



Snow Skiing/Boarding Trip

Falls Creek, Aug 7 - 12, 2016



This trip is open to all year levels.

A maximum of 32 students can attend.

Cost:

Approx \$1100 — \$1200

Cost Includes:

4 days of skiing / boarding and lessons, lifts, skis or board hire, transport, accommodation, all meals and HEAPS OF FUN!

To secure a spot:

You need to pay a \$100 deposit ASAP.

“ First in, best dressed! ”

The deposit is fully refundable before June 3rd 2016.

The trip leader is Mr. Bailey, tel: 5127 9200.



MLJFC are looking for players for Under 12's and Under 14's for season 2016.

We will be holding a special training session with some of the players from the St Kilda football club on MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY - 4.45pm to 5.45pm at the racecourse.

Normal football training will commence on TUESDAY 1st MARCH at the racecourse between 4.30pm-5.30pm. Training will be Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the football season.

All enquiries to Andrew (MLJFC president) on 0429 149 553.

Please note: To be eligible to play, you must have turned 7 before 30th April 2016

Hope to see you in Season 2016.

Newborough Girl Guides

invite girls to come and be part of a free

'Open Fun Night'

Wednesday 2 March at the Guide Hall

Torres St Newborough

Girl Guides develop new friendships as they also learn leadership and decision making skills, life skills and improve their self-confidence while having fun being involved in a wide range of indoor, outdoor and community activities.

Junior Guides (5 to 9 years) meet from 5pm till 6.30pm

Senior Guides (10 to 14 years) meet from 6.30pm till 8pm.

Come and meet us and have some fun!

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef



Emergency Management

On Thursday morning, the College conducted a siren test as a part of our Emergency Management policy. This was not an actual evacuation or lockdown event, rather it was used to test our procedures and educate our students on what to do when different sirens are broadcast across the College. This is in readiness for a planned Evacuation DRILL in the next week.

Career News

This fortnightly Newsletter will keep you in touch with career events, expos, courses, Open Days and so on. Attending career events will assist you to make wise career decisions.

Students who do research, attend events, collect information, and talk to others about careers frequently find it easier to make their own decisions.

WHAT ARE SOME OF MY ALTERNATIVES UPON LEAVING SCHOOL?

One option is university study. Research shows that those who have a university degree (on average) are less likely to be unemployed and are likely to earn more during their lifetimes than those who do not.

Others will want to complete a vocational course (VET) like hospitality, childcare or graphic design.

Another significant group will enter a trade by completing an apprenticeship or traineeship in areas such as plumbing, carpentry, mechanics, refrigeration or office administration.

Those entering employment with no study plans need to understand that their career options and earning capacity are likely to be limited in the long term. Qualifications are VITAL.

Thinking of University? There are nine in Victoria:

- Australian Catholic University (ACU) has campuses in Fitzroy and Ballarat. It is a small but growing university, publicly funded, open to those of any or no faith.
- Deakin University's main campus is in Burwood, but it also has campuses in Geelong and Warrnambool. It is a large university offering a very broad range of degrees.
- Federation University has campuses in Ballarat and in Gippsland. It is a fairly small university serving two rural communities.
- La Trobe University's main campus is in Bundoora, but it also has campuses in Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton. It is a large university.
- Monash University is very large; its main campus is in Clayton, but it also has campuses in Berwick, Caulfield, and Frankston (Peninsula Campus) (also in Malaysia and Prato in Italy).
- RMIT is a large dual-sector institution (a VET provider as well) in the City, with other campuses in Brunswick and Bundoora.
- Swinburne is also a dual-sector provider with a university campus in Hawthorn, and VET campuses in the City, Croydon, Hawthorn and Wantirna.
- The University of Melbourne is the oldest University, its main campus being in Parkville. It also has specialised campuses in Burnley, Creswick, Dookie, Shepparton, Southbank and Werribee.
- Victoria University's main campus is in Footscray, but it also has campuses in the City, Melton, St Albans, Sunshine and Werribee. VU is a university and a VET provider.

NOTE: Charles Sturt University is sometimes listed with Victorian Universities. It is in fact a NSW Institution with a campus on the Victoria/NSW border at Albury-Wodonga.

There are many providers of vocational education (VET) such as Bendigo TAFE, Box Hill Institute, Gordon, Holmesglen, Kangan, Melbourne Polytechnic, RMIT, Swinburne and VU.

With so many institutions available it is important that you do some research during senior years at school. This includes attending Open Days, Career Expos, school holiday programs and so on.

FOCUS ON SOME HEALTH DEGREES:

MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY



It is possible to study medicine/surgery at Deakin (Geelong), Monash (Clayton and Gippsland), and Melbourne universities. Of course, many interstate universities also offer medicine, and it is possible to study it in New Zealand (eg University of Otago in Dunedin) and have the qualification recognised in Australia. NOTE: Be aware that medical qualifications from many overseas universities are not recognised in Australia and further study in Australia is required.

The ONLY university in Victoria offering an undergraduate medical degree is Monash. Acceptance into this course is based on a combination of ATAR, UMAT result and a multi-mini interview. UMAT is short for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test. This year the test will be held on Wednesday 27 July. Registrations are open now and close at 5pm (AEST) on Friday 3 June, 2016. See: <http://umat.acer.edu.au>. The UMAT is a multiple choice assessment; it is possible to purchase practice tests at this website, and you are strongly advised to do so as the UMAT is a very demanding test and practice is vital. The only Victorian undergraduate degree which requires completion of the UMAT is Medicine at Monash. La Trobe University requires it for Dentistry, but only for non-Year 12 applicants. Some interstate universities require it as part of the application process for medicine, dentistry and some other medical-related courses so you are wise to check this. It is common for students keen to study medical courses to apply to interstate universities as well as Victoria. Living in a particular state does not give any priority to applicants. NOTE: International applicants see International Student Admissions Test (ASAT).

Monash also offers a post-graduate degree in medicine, as do Deakin and Melbourne universities. Monash has very specific requirements for entry to the post-graduate degree, including that from 2017 the undergraduate degree MUST be a Monash degree (preferably the B. Biomedical Science, or alternatively the B. Pharmacy or the B. Physiotherapy, or in a small number of cases the B. Science). Most applicants for the Melbourne degree would complete either the B. Biomedicine or the B. Science at Melbourne first. Deakin also does not specify the under-graduate degree. NOTE: Many post-graduate medical degrees require applicants to sit for a test known as the GAMSAT. See: <http://gamsat.acer.edu.au>.

Dentistry is only offered in Victoria as an undergraduate degree at La Trobe University (Bendigo) and as a post-graduate degree at Melbourne University.

It is important for anyone thinking of studying medicine or dentistry to research and start preparing; the competition for university places is considerable. Some universities offer information sessions about their courses (Eg 'At Monash' Seminars and Focus On Melbourne seminars – details later).

Remember, of course, many students considering medicine or dentistry could be well suited to several other occupations, not necessarily in the medical field, so explore these as well.

BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES AT MONASH

To who is this degree suited? Are you passionate about health and keen to contribute to addressing real health challenges? This is a 'parent' course under which there are four possible specialisations. Students enrol in the course relevant to their specialisation: B. Emergency Health, B. Human Services (can lead to Masters in Social Work), B. Public Health Science and B. Radiation Science. Studies commence at the Caulfield campus where students from all specialisations will apply scientific approaches to the study and improvement of health, considering physiological, behavioural, developmental, social and environmental aspects of human health and disease. After the first three semesters, you will develop an in-depth knowledge of the theory and practice of your specialisation. Prerequisites – 3/4 English and any Maths.

WHAT IS PHYSIOTHERAPY?



Physiotherapists assess, treat and prevent disorders in human movement caused by injury or disease. They work in private practice, hospitals, rehabilitation centres, health department, mental health, school systems and some with sports clubs. Most young aspiring physiotherapist want to work as sport physiotherapists, however, you need to understand that many, in fact, work with elderly patients.

Physiotherapy is taught at Monash, La Trobe, Charles Sturt and Melbourne Universities. ACU is introducing the course at Ballarat campus in 2017. The ATAR required for all courses is very high, and admission to the Monash degree also requires an interview. The Melbourne degree is post-graduate. A science background and interest is required for successful completion of the course.

WHAT IS MYOTHERAPY?



This is a remedial massage course which assists in rehabilitation, pain and injury management. The Advanced Diploma takes two to three years to complete. Some students who are interested in physiotherapy but who are not able to obtain the required ATAR find myotherapy a satisfying alternative. It is offered at a number of institutions such as Box Hill, Chisholm, Holmesglen, Melbourne Polytechnic, RMIT and Victoria University.

WHAT IS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY?



Do you want to engage people to participate in activities to their full potential? Occupational Therapy involves working with individuals, groups and communities to enhance their ability to engage in the occupations they want to, need to, or are expected to do. It is offered at ACU, Charles Sturt, La Trobe, Deakin (Geelong), and Monash universities.

WHAT IS PROSTHETICS?



Learn about artificial limbs (prostheses) for people with amputations and supporting devices (orthoses) for people with musculoskeletal weaknesses. In Victoria this degree course is taught only at La Trobe university.