Harmony Day Celebrations
It gave me great pleasure to welcome our College community and special guests to our 2016 Harmony Day celebrations that were held on Thursday 17th March. This year’s theme for Harmony Day was “Our diversity is our strength.” At McGuire College we have people who have come from many places and yet everyone belongs and works together in a spirit of togetherness no matter what their background, race or colour and we are very proud of that.

Harmony Day touches on all of us, as we live, learn and lead in our local community of Shepparton. The Shepparton and Australia that we live in today is made up of many different nationalities. Did you know:

- Over the last 70 years more than 7 million migrants have made Australia their home.
- Australians today identify with cultural links to more than 300 different ancestries.

Harmony Day is a day to remind us that even though every single one of us is different and unique we all get along through showing respect for each other. At McGuire College we do this every day as part of our REAL values:

- We **Respect** ourselves and each other.
- We build and develop our **environment**, including our learning environment, for the better.
- We keep each other to **accountable** and support one another to be the best we can be.
- We value **learning** as a key ingredient in a healthy and prosperous future.

At McGuire College we have examples every day that diversity is our strength. A strength that you should be proud of, that we collectively should be proud of and one that our community should be proud of. I know I certainly am.

Our Harmony Day celebrations would not have been possible without the work and dedication of our staff, students and broader community. A special thank you to Jagdish Mahinder-Singh and her team for the outstanding contribution that made our day a success. Thank you to all of our guests and visitors who attended. Thank you to our supporters - Victorian Multicultural Commission, Air Charter Today, Shepparton News, City of Greater Shepparton Council, Mooroopna SC Wannik Dance Group and the Greater Valley Calisthenics Club.
Senior Students
As we approach the end of Term 1 it is a great opportunity for our Year 11 and 12 students to ensure that they are up to date and ready to make the most of Term 2. If you have fallen behind or missed some lessons due to illness, sporting endeavours or camps, this final week of Term is an opportunity to talk with your teachers and prepare to catch up and even get ahead over the school holiday break. Regularly reviewing and updating your notes, developing study sheets and regular reading will all help you with your endeavours as we work our way through the year. Plan your work to enable the balance and inclusion of family, friends and work, and most importantly to ensure you have the time and focus you need to do your best. Remember, our teachers are always here to assist you in making the most of your final years with us.

Student Attendance
Our first round of Student Reports for 2016 have highlighted some outstanding achievements by some students and an extremely positive overall College SPA average of 3.94 out of 5. Congratulations to all of our students on their SPA achievements and on their regular attendance at school. The table below highlights our attendance rates for 2016, with Year 11 leading the way with a 95.64% attendance rate. Those students recording high attendance rates are putting themselves in the best possible position to achieve their chosen pathways and achieve outstanding results in 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Rate</th>
<th>Crane Year 7-10</th>
<th>Heron Year 7-10</th>
<th>Swan Year 7-10</th>
<th>Teal Year 7-10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
<th>Total Year 7-12</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>94.47%</td>
<td>94.72%</td>
<td>95.11%</td>
<td>92.38%</td>
<td>95.64%</td>
<td>92.82%</td>
<td>94.19%</td>
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Please note that students will be dismissed at 2:15pm on Thursday 24th March, the final day of Term 1.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and safe Term break when it arrives on Friday 25th March.

Kind regards,

Brad Moyle
Principal
Year 7 Campers at Billabong Ranch

Harmony Day Celebrations
OPEN NOW – AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE GAP YEAR PROGRAM

The Australian Defence Force Gap Year program provides the opportunity for Australian citizens who have Year 12 to experience military training and lifestyle whilst gaining new skills and pay over their Gap Year in the Army, Navy or Air Force. You will earn more than $45,000, have subsidised accommodation and full medical and dental coverage for the year. There are 11 different roles available to apply and applications are now open. Places are limited so get in early. Visit www.defencejobs.gov.au for more information. See information further in this newsletter.

Reminders:

- Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) – Register by: 3 June; Test date: 27 July (required for students applying for Medicine, Dentistry and some Health Sciences degrees)
- VCE and Careers Expo – Caulfield Racecourse; Thurs 5 – Sun 8 May; Cost: $10, $25 families; Info: www.vceandcareers.com.au. Please see Mrs Harcoan if you would like a free ticket.

OPEN DAYS – Open Days are held at universities and TAFE institutes each year, giving the public the opportunity to see the facilities, talk to staff and students, collect information and attend information sessions. They are generally held on Sundays later in the year, but dates are provided here so that you can put them in your diary now.

Open Day dates 2016

- Sun 31 July – Swinburne University
- Sun 7 Aug – Deakin University (Warrnambool); La Trobe University (Bundoora); Monash University (Caulfield & Clayton)
- Sun 14 Aug – ACU (Melbourne), La Trobe University (Bendigo); Monash University (Peninsula); RMIT University; William Angliss Institute
- Sub 21 Aug – Box Hill (Lilydale campus): Deakin University (Waterfront & Waurn Ponds); University of Melbourne
- Sun 28 Aug – ACU (Ballarat); Box Hill Institute (Box Hill); Deakin University (Burwood); Federation University; Victoria University (Footscray campus)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CHECK OUT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY? La Trobe holds ‘Experience La Trobe’ days in the school holiday breaks. These are a chance to see facilities, find out about courses and careers, and talk to staff and student ambassadors about La Trobe. You will be able to attend tutorials and lectures; why not attend with friends or family? When: Melbourne campus (Bundoora) 31 March; Bendigo campus 1 April; See: www.latrobe.edu.au/experience for information/bookings.

DO YOU WANT A JOB WORKING WITH ANIMALS?

A great way to find out more is by attending Healesville Sanctuary’s ‘Keeper for the Day’ or ‘Vet for a Day’ program OR Werribee Open Range Zoo’s ‘Keeper for a Day’ program. These programs are suitable for students in Years 7 – 12. When:

- Healesville Keeper for a Day: 9.30am-3.30pm, March 29 & 30, April 5 & 6; Cost: $115
- Healesville Vet for a Day: 9.30am-3.30pm, March 30 & 31 and April 6 & 7; Cost: $129
- Werribee Open Range Zoo Keeper for a Day: 9.30am-3.30pm, March 29 & 31 and April 6 & 8; Cost: $115.

Information/Booking: 1300 966 784; See also: www.zoo.org.au/education/careers-programs

Another opportunity to find out about working with animals is to attend the Werribee Open Day. This is run by the University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences. Find out about the B. Agricultural and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine programs, attend course information sessions, explore other careers in science, veterinary nursing and equine studies, tour the facilities and go to food stalls to support Melbourne students. When: 10am-3pm, Sat 19 March; Where: 250 Princes Highway, Werribee; Information: bit.ly/Werribee-open-day-2016.
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A NURSING AND/OR MIDWIFERY CAREER? Division 1 nursing involves a three-year degree at university while Division 2 requires an 18-month diploma. Some students who wish to study nursing also wish to study midwifery. This can either be done through a double degree in nursing and midwifery which will take 4 years or by studying nursing and then doing an 18-month course in midwifery. The double degree is offered at Deakin, La Trobe and Monash Universities. The good news for Year 12 students is that Victoria University (St Albans campus) is introducing this double degree in 2017. The aim is to address the challenges in maternity care. Increasing rates of health conditions such as mental health disorders, diabetes and obesity have increased the complexity of care for women.

NOTE: there are many other combinations of double degrees with nursing, providing more employment and interest options upon graduation. For example, ACU offers Nursing/Paramedics at the Ballarat campus and Deakin offers Nursing/Public Health and Health Promotion, Nursing/Psychological Science (and also a single degree called Nursing (Clinical Leadership)).

CHECK OUT STUDYING SCIENCE AT RMIT – Deciding where to study after finishing school is a challenge...One way to find out more is to visit the university that interests you and see the facilities. RMIT is offering such an opportunity in the school holidays. Go behind the scenes on a tour of the facilities. Students and parents are invited to visit RMIT’s state-of-the-art learning laboratories and to find out how RMIT degrees provide the knowledge and skills to tackle real-world problems and advance the way we live. Programs cover biology, biotechnology, chemistry, environmental science, food science, nanotechnology and physics. When: 11am-2pm, 30 March; Where: Building 3, Level 1, Applied Sciences Reception, RMIT City; Cost: Free; Booking and information: www.rmit.edu.au/events/all-events/tours/2016/

DO YOU WANT TO CHECK OUT WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE IN THE CITY? William Angliss is a provider of courses in hospitality, food, tourism and events. William Angliss is giving school students the chance to delve into the world of Tourism & Travel and Events in the school holidays. Tourism, Travel and Events – a hands-on introduction to the travel and tourism industry via an on-site amazing race-style activity. Students will then go to the new aeroplane interior demonstration area and be given a taster of what a career as a flight attendant could be. After a catered lunch, students will get the chance to jump into the world of Event Management with a table theming activity held in the Angliss Restaurant. When: 9.30am-2.30pm, Thurs 31 March; Where: 555 La Trobe St, Melbourne; Who: Students in Years 9-11; Cost: $120 (including lunch). REGISTER HERE! Enquiries: Marketing@angliss.edu.au

MORE SWINBURNE NEWS - Swinburne is proposing the following courses/changes for 2017 (some subject to academic approval):
- Swinburne is considering an Early Entry Scheme (already offered by ACU and La Trobe universities). The ATAR would no longer be the sole determinant for entry.
- Introduction of the Bachelor of Nursing (possibly at Wantirna)
- Revised majors in sports science, nutrition and clinical technologies
- Introduction of the Bachelor of Exercise Science
- Introduction of a common first year for the Bachelor of Engineering, giving students a taste of the different fields in engineering before making a decision about their specialisation (similar to Monash University engineering)

Career Growth Areas
Where can I use my ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEGREE? Opportunities are increasing all the time with new technological developments, much more so than in civil engineering for example. Electrical engineering can be used in banking, the television industry, mining, automotive (eg driverless vehicles), marketing, solar cells, the health industry and in renewable energy to name a few.

ROBOTICS is another area of growth in engineering (eg. drones, humanoid robots, Mars rover, robotic vacuums, etc).

Lynda Harcoan
Careers & Pathways Coordinator
Gap Year applications are now open!

Students can now apply to experience their Gap Year in the Navy, Army or Air Force.

The ADF Gap Year program is an excellent way to experience military life and to gain a greater understanding of what's involved. On completion they can continue serving in the Navy, Army or Air Force, or offer the skills and experience they've acquired to an alternative career path.

In 2017 there are 11 roles to choose from ranging from admin to artillery, and flight crew to logistics. Places are strictly limited and will only be open for a limited time.

Things to know:

Details of all the Gap Year roles are available at [defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear](https://defencejobs.gov.au/gapyear)

Employment commences early 2017

Applicants must have completed Year 12 and be aged between 18 and 24 as of 1 April 2017 (Navy)
31 May 2017 (Army)
7 April 2017 (Air Force)
ACD CONNECT
Put yourself in the driver’s seat

“I always knew that I wanted my son to have the same opportunities as everyone else – to live independently, have a job and experience the usual rites of passage associated with adulthood. We just needed to work out how to achieve it.”

Janie Chan, Manager ACD Educate and mum to young man with disability

ACD CONNECT is a free peer support network for families seeking to manage their child’s supports to achieve a fulfilling and purposeful life.

But it will be years before NDIS will be in my region!

Much of what you learn in ACD CONNECT will be useful to you NOW. The knowledge and skills gained from these sessions can be applied to your current situation whatever funding or supports your child has.

What will I learn?

› Navigating the system before the NDIS roll out
› Setting goals and planning
› Managing your funding and support
› Advocating for your child
› Developing community connections
› Introduction to the NDIS – the basics

Is ACD CONNECT for me?

✓ Are you the parent or carer of a child with a disability aged 0–18
✓ Do you want to learn how to plan, manage and direct your child’s services and supports?
✓ Are you keen to connect with other families in your community?

ACD CONNECT: Shepparton

Session Dates: Wednesdays 20th April, 4th May, 18th May, 1st June, 15th June, 13th July, 27th July and 10th August
Time: 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Venue: Mooroopna Education and Activity Centre, 23 Alexandra St Mooroopna
To register: Contact Nicole O’Brien on 0484 856 976 or nicolee@acd.org.au

Light refreshments will be provided. ACD members will be given preference in event of over booking.

For further information please visit www.acd.org.au/acd-connect