A message from the Principal

Welcome back to everyone who is part of our very large GWSC community. I extend an especially big welcome to all families who have joined the College this year for the first time. I hope your time with us is very positive and successful. Our new year 7 cohort has made a fantastic start to the year and I have already had the pleasure of meeting many new parents.

We have enjoyed a very smooth and efficient start to the new school year. It is a delight to be surrounded by so many bright and enthusiastic students. Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful 2016

I would firstly like to acknowledge the fantastic achievements of the class of 2015.

Congratulations Year 12 Class of 2015

20 ATARS over 99
130 ATARS over 90
9 perfect study scores
16.5% of study scores over 40
Dux Cindy Ji 99.85

Around 70% of the cohort achieved an Australian Tertiary Ranking above 80 and 80% above 70. Sterling performance! 97% of applicants have received tertiary offers.

New Staff

We welcome many talented new teachers into the school this year. They have settled in very well and report that they feel very comfortable among such a friendly group of students and colleagues.

Anna Rossetto – Head of Health and PE
Georgia Biggs – English
Brad Slater – Music
Briony Swan – Music-Voice
Alicia Nehez – Economics
Daisy Chen – Chinese
Karen Mundy – Humanities
Sarah Bradbury - Humanities
GWSC Strategic Priorities 2016

In 2014 a major review of the College was conducted and representatives of the school community invested a great deal of time and effort on the development of a new four year Strategic Plan. 2016 is the second year of this Strategic Plan.

A range of strategic priorities have been identified to be worked on during 2016. Principal among these priorities is a continuing focus on pedagogy (how our teachers teach). During 2015, under the direction of Director of Pedagogy, Dr Lars Andersson, the College developed what we call the GWSC Instructional Model. The Instructional Model captures and makes explicit for teachers the essential core elements of an effective lesson. Implementing the model is a major priority this year. This will involve ongoing professional learning for staff. An essential part of this will involve peer observation – teachers observing each other in the classroom and learning from one another. All of this is driven by a belief that our pedagogical practices can improve and that, no matter how well we are currently doing our job, there will always be scope for doing it even better. The beneficiaries of such improvement are, of course, our students. Improved learning outcomes and student wellbeing remain at the heart of all our strategic priorities.

Cowes

This week our 343 Year 12 students are participating in the annual VCE study camp at Cowes on Phillip Island. This is a very important event in the preparation of our students. It is vital that we establish a strong culture of aspiration and support that will serve the students and their teachers well as they embark on the significant challenges of negotiating the demanding Year 12 program.

I always look forward to spending some time down at Cowes and lending my encouragement to the endeavours of the Class of 2016

School Council and AGM

The results of the School Council election will be announced at the Annual General Meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 16th March at 7.00pm in the Professional Learning Centre in the school’s Administration Building. This year there are three parent positions to be filled. The AGM is an open meeting of the College Council and parents are welcome to attend, please send your rsvp to kcm@gwsc.vic.edu.au.

Happy New Year to our very large Chinese community and all others who celebrate this event according to the lunar calendar. Good luck to everyone for a highly successful
Access important information about Middle School on our Website  

Student absences: please call 8805 6713 prior to 10am

Jackie Knight – Director of Middle School Students  
Mandy Provis – Director of Middle School Learning  
Geoff O’Neill - Director of Programs

MIDDLE SCHOOL

We extend a warm welcome from Glen Waverley Secondary College to all our new students and their families. Year 7 students have made a successful transition to secondary school and have quickly settled into a positive and productive routine. It is really impressive to see how our students are thoughtful and prepared to provide assistance to others, especially, those who are new to the school. Students in Years 8 and 9 have adapted well and are enjoying their learning and the various co-curricular activities.

Year 7 students had the opportunity to see the Shrewd Brass Band performance on the 9th February introducing students to our exciting Music Program and they will be looking forward to attending the Year 7 camps at the Nayook or Thornton Campuses of the Rubicon Outdoor Centre. Year 7 camp is an important part of the school curriculum and is compulsory for all Year 7 students to attend. The camp promotes a sense of connectedness amongst students and with their teachers. Relationships between students that are built on camp are important in establishing a strong foundation for their time here at Glen Waverley Secondary College and beyond.

The dates Year 7 Camps are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Camp</th>
<th>Campus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7B1 Tue 16th Feb to Fri 19th Feb 2016</td>
<td>Nayook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7E1</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
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<tr>
<td>7F1</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
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<tr>
<td>7E2 Tue 23rd Feb to Fri 26th Feb 2016</td>
<td>Nayook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B2</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
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<tr>
<td>7G1</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7F2 Tue 15th Mar to Fri 18th Mar 2016</td>
<td>Nayook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7E3</td>
<td>Nayook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B3 Tue 19th Apr to Fri 22nd Apr 2016</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7G2</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7F3 Tue 26th Apr to Fri 29nd Apr 2016</td>
<td>Nayook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7G3 Mon 30th May to Thurs 2nd Jun 2016</td>
<td>Nayook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Over the summer holiday break we received the heartbreaking news that a bushfire devastated many hectares of pasture and bushland of Narmbool, the property on which our Year 8 camp is located. Thanks to the brave efforts of the CFA and Narmbool staff, the main student accommodation and classrooms (The Lodge) and Historic Homestead was saved, but unfortunately the Tea Tree Bush Camp suffered extensive damage. The recovery plan is already in place to restore the property to its former glory and

Gerry Schiller – Principal

2016.
ensure the safety of its staff and visitors. Planning is currently underway for our Year 8 Camp program for 2016 at the Narmbool Environmental Discovery Centre. There will be changes to the structure of the program from previous years, however, we are excited about the opportunities this brings including student activities to explore the impact of bushfires on biodiversity, and the natural processes of regeneration and recovery. More details about Year 8 Camp, including dates and cost, will be provided to families later in term one.

Peer Support is up and running for Year 7, and students have been involved in a range of activities led by a trained team of Year 9 students on Orientation Day and the first day this year. The Peer Support leaders have demonstrated great leadership qualities and will continue to help Year 7 students as they adjust to secondary school. This is valuable to transition as students get to know others in a small group setting and they connect with the Year 9 students.

An important part of student success is the communication and partnership between students, parents and teachers. We encourage parents to contact your child’s House Leader if you have any queries or concerns. We ask that parents check their child’s Student Planner and sign it weekly. If your child is absent, please phone the school in the morning and provide a note on the day your child returns to school. Students who are late to school must bring a note from home explaining the reason for lateness. A note must be brought to the Middle School Office before school if a student needs to leave school early. We expect students to be in full school uniform which must be worn correctly in line with the College uniform policy which can be found in the Student Planner.

Effective use of the Student Planner is important in assisting students to manage their learning and to be prepared for the school day. The following guidelines will be given to students in Level Assemblies over the next few weeks:

**USING THE STUDENT PLANNER (Diary) - STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Carefully record all classes for each day and all homework that has been set.
- Enter homework on the day it is set in the “homework and study notes” side of the page and put a reminder on the due date page on the “assessments/assignments due” side.
- Enter any important events and things to remember.
- Check diary each afternoon before going home from school and also each morning at home to make sure that all required materials are packed in school bag.
- Ask a parent/guardian to sign your diary on a weekly basis.
- Make sure parents know that they can communicate with teachers via the diary.
Use the diary as a school document and not as a personal diary, it should not have any graffiti or decorations.

Personal property, such as mobile phones, calculators, sporting equipment and musical instruments, is often brought to school by students. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to the school. It is the responsibility of students if they choose to bring these items to school.

Please be aware that the College has a responsibility to ensure that unauthorised people are not present in the school. In order to protect the safety of students, we ask that parents report to the General Office to obtain a Visitor’s Pass.

Our Year 7 and 8 House Swimming carnival was held on Tuesday February 2nd at Monash Aquatic Centre. It was a great carnival and pleasing to see so many students participate and support their House on the day.

Our Middle School Captains were selected at the end of 2015 and Obi Azubuike, Stephanie Chia, Igor Subasic de Azevero and Sanika Ajinkya have already demonstrated strong leadership skills, and encouraging participation and helping new students to feel welcome in our college.

The Middle School team is looking forward to a productive and exciting year with our students. Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries or concerns.

Jackie Knight - Director of Middle School Students
Mandy Provis - Director of Middle School Learning
Geoff O’Neill - Director of Programs

Stephanie Chia, Obi Azubuike, Sanika Ajinkya, Igor Subasic de Azevedo

“An invitation from Melbourne City coach, Joe Montemurro to join his squad as a train-on player has put 13-year-old Sofia Sakalis in good stead”

Read about Sofia’s Soccer Success
SENIOR SCHOOL

It is with pleasure that we present the first Senior School Report for 2016. We began the year with approximately 1030 students across years 10, 11 & 12, and we are confident that 2016 will be another successful year for the senior school students of GWSC.

The sub school student management team is made up of a number of people. They are as follows:
- Director of Students: Sue Simadri
- Director of Learning: Fiona Bui
- Director of Pathways: Eugenia Tsalikis
- Careers Advisor: Bernadette Doufalidis
- Year 10 House Leaders: Alex Milnes & Daniel McGuire
- Year 11 House Leaders: Helen Alway & Daniel Mechelen
- Year 12 House Leaders: Anne Rose and Ramsey Imam

In addition, we have Mary Rose, who will be looking after VCE student records and all data relating to VCE results. The roles and responsibilities of these individuals, as well as the many policies and management procedures relating to the running of the Senior School, are outlined in the Senior School Handbook. All senior school students will have online access to this handbook later this term. We strongly encourage both parents and students to familiarize themselves with the important information contained in the handbook and to keep it in an accessible place for easy reference whenever required. We also look forward to your attendance at the VCE Information Seminar for parents (mainly targeting Year 10 & 11 parents) to be held at the school on Thursday, 25th February, at 7:00pm. The aim of the seminar is to educate parents about VCE policies and management structures.

Year 12 Cowes Camp
The Senior School Management Team and several VCE teachers are involved in the Year 12 Cowes Camp at Phillip Island this week. The diverse camp program provides our Year 12 students with the opportunities to develop many skills, as well as, provide students with the kick-start and motivation to take them forward in 2016. The Camp also provides teachers, co-ordinators, principals (all principals will be attending the camp for a day or two) and students the opportunity to build relationships outside of the normal college environment. An enormous time and effort has gone into planning and organising the camp program. As evidenced in previous years, it is an extremely worthwhile and valuable part of the Year 12 program. This year, students are fortunate to also attend a Careers program at Monash, where they will receive valuable information regarding courses and pathways.

Uniform Policy
We urge parents to support the college with the Uniform Policy. As role models, it is imperative that all Senior School students
wear the uniform as specified by the policy. Disciplining students over uniform matters can be very time consuming and not at all pleasant; students who consistently breach the policy will be sent home. This is something we do not wish to do, and would be seen as a last resort for students who do not comply. We therefore ask that parents support us in this matter.

The Senior School has instigated a relatively smooth start to the year. We are extremely pleased with how most of our students have applied themselves from the very first day. All members of the Senior School Management Team look forward to working with your children and welcome any comments or questions that you may have in relation to your son's/daughter's progress, or any of the events and programs running this year. Communication between students, student managers, teachers and parents is vital to the success of your child.

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**Student Leadership 2016**

We are pleased to announce our School Captains, Senior School Council, Senior School Advisory Group, Senior School Sport House Captains and the Fund Raising Committee for 2016:

**School Captains**

Yishan Neo  
Visura Lokuge Don  
Tanvi Nair  
Amir Mirfendereski

**International School Captains**

Robert Li  
Sharon Kong

**Senior School Council**

Nicole Teh  
Farhan Ishraq  
Kash Marudhavanan  
Sabrina Mohd Sarip  
Tiara Rajesh
Student Leadership 2016

Senior School Advisory Group

Malisha Godakanda  Meredith Lai  Fred Lung

Astro Sakalis  Wendy Xie  Mohammad Zia

Music Captains

Amber May  Justin Lim  Carla Maggio De Leo  Jerry Zhao

Arts Captains

Senior Visual Arts

Serena Ang  Tony Cheung

Community Arts Council

Min-Yi Shu  Ryan Kouch

Sport Captains

Amanda Low  Sam Combridge
Senior Sport House Captains

Elliott House Captains
Dahami BATUGAHAGE DON MADAVA, Bip BIJAY, Sam COMBRIDGE;

Fraser House Captains
Suvin DIAS, Klemens HABERBERGER, Videsh WAGH;

Bradman House Captains
James DOUGLAS, Michael MOORE, Ria NERLIKAR, Stuti PANDE, Akshat PURI, Chelsea TAING

Goolagong House Captains
Kristin BOWEN, Swathi KARTHIKEYAN, Sharon LIM, Amanda LOW, Noee RABER, Astro SAKALIS, Evangeline STOGIANNOU

VicSRC Captains

Prineeka Sharma  Mahek Shah  Alfred Tang  Rocky Liang

Fund Raising Committee
Minoshka BOCARRO, Vivian DANG, Yifan GUO, Ella HARDY, Rocky LIANG, Katie HE, Maanya IVAR, Pei Ting FOO, Sarah LIAW, Samira TADIKONDA, Lily WANG

Congratulations to all of our student leaders for this year! We are confident that they will be excellent leaders and role models, and we applaud them for their willingness to serve Glen Waverley Secondary College.

Sue Simadri – Director of Students
Fiona Bui – Director of Learning
SCHOOL NURSE

Immunisations
The only students to participate in the Secondary School Vaccination Program will be students enrolled in Yr 7 at the college.

Please check that your Year 7 Student has returned vaccination cards to middle school or general office. By no later than 19/02/2016

Parents can notify the school nurse on 8805 6734 if your child is unable to attend their immunisation session due to illness on the day before or day of their allocated immunisation. As a certified Nurse Immuniser I can advise if unsure if your child should attend or should not attend due to illness.

Reminder to all parents that wish to provide written consent to Mr Schiller NOT to transfer their contact information to local council is due by February 28th 2016.

It is important to notify the school nurse if your child has been diagnosed with communicable diseases such as chicken pox, measles, whooping cough or shingles. Your child’s condition will remain confidential.

Asthma
Our weather has been quiet unpredictable since the commencement of the school year and there has been a noticeable increase in student presenting at the health centre with exacerbation of their Asthma condition. Remind your child to take their Ventolin puffer with them to school particularly on days they are attending P.E. classes that involve strenuous physical activity. PLEASE FORWARD TO THE GWSC AN UPDATED ASTHMA ACTION PLAN FOR OUR RECORDS.

Anaphylaxis
Does your child experience anaphylaxis and carries an Epipen?

The start of the school year is a good time to renew your child’s anaphylaxis action plan, ASCIA recommend that action plans are renewed every 12 – 18 months.

It is also important that you remind your child to ALWAYS have their Epipen while at school, attending camps or on excursions.

I will be checking action plans and Epipen’s & expiry dates with anaphylaxis students commencing next week.

College Nurse- Carolyn Dickinson
**Student Accident Insurance/Ambulance Cover Arrangements and Private Property Brought to Schools**

Schools are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by school councils on a whole-of-school basis, or by parents/guardians for individual students.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

**Prayer Group**

A small group of Christian parents and friends of the College meet for prayer in the Main Office Building, each Wednesday morning from 9.00-9.50am.

If you are interested in joining us, would like further information, or have a special request for prayer, you can contact Jennifer Ding: 0423015315 and Daisy Liu 0423 660 482.

**Parent Association**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
<td>Wednesday 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH</td>
<td>Tuesday 8th</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
<td>Tuesday 24th</td>
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<tr>
<td>JULY</td>
<td>Tuesday 12th</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUGUST</td>
<td>Tuesday 23rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER</td>
<td>Tuesday 11th</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER</td>
<td>Tuesday 15th</td>
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All meetings of the Parents Association are held in the Science & Technology Centre commencing at 7.30pm. Parking is available in the Staff Car Park, enter via Sneddon Drive.

*Cheryl Monkman – President Parents Association*
SPONSORS

Upcoming Sports Events:
- Intermediate Round Robin Sport (year 9 & 10) - Monday 22nd February
- Senior Round Robin Sport (year 11 & 12) - Friday 26th February
- Division Swimming – March 3rd
- Year 7 Round Robin Sport – March 8th
- Year 8 Round Robin Sport – March 16th

The day was a huge success with participants from all houses competing in races ranging from group races such as the mat race and relay to single events such as 50 metre freestyle to 100 metre backstroke. The cheering from the crowd was exhilarating with everyone involved in the day,

A special thanks to Mr Crotty and Mr Pitts for organising and adjudicating the day, without the effort put in by these gentleman the day would not have run as smoothly. We would also like to make a special mention to the House leaders (as seen right) and sports captains for pumping up the day.

For those lucky enough getting into Division swimming get your game face on and just keep swimming!

Important:
For those competing in Round Robin sports pay attention to your emails for training times and be sure to return all consent forms before the day
Good luck to everyone on the day

Sam Combridge & Amanda Low
College Sports Captains