WELCOME

It was an absolute joy to welcome students and parents back to school for 2016! Firstly I’d like to let new parents know that we ordinarily have two publications of COG per term (mid and end of term) but with such a short term we thought we would just have one for Term 1. I hope that Term 1 has gone well for you all and that you are full of enthusiasm for a wonderful year ahead. Despite being surrounded by some very small primary schools our numbers continue to grow with well over 180 students coming into Year 7 which is a terrific number, allowing us to run lots of wonderful programs without losing the ability to really get to know our students and offering a truly personalised learning experience. We are really excited about some plans we have been working on for the last few years and hope to share this with all of you in the coming months if we are successful with our lobbying of the state government.

School Council members would know that we have plans for major upgrades to a number of areas of the College including building a Sports Centre, the Performing Arts Centre being redeveloped into a theatre space, updating and opening up both the Science and Art wings as well as replacing the Technology building roof. Of course this is just what we want and at a $12.7m price tag we need government assistance. Our local member of parliament Paul Edbrooke has been very supportive in going in to bat for McClelland, as has The Leader with their current local media campaign. We hope you can support us by signing our petition on Change.org https://www.change.org/p/minister-for-education-the-hon-james-merlino-mp-secure-mcclelland-college-funding-for-desperately-needed-upgrades so that when the Minister for Education, James Merlino visits McClelland on April 20th, I have plenty of evidence that our school community needs, deserves and demands the very best facilities for our students.
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The McClelland School Council consists of 12 members, comprising six elected parent members, two co-opted community members, two student representatives, two elected Department of Education employee members and the Principal. I am proud to announce this year’s School Council Members are:

- Patrick Lee (President)
- Kishan Ajjampur (parent member)
- Tracey Hopgood (parent member)
- Simon Thoming (parent member)
- Belinda Simpson (parent member)
- Kim Mackie (parent member)
- Vic Hodge (community member from Experian)
- Paul Edbrooke (community member and MP for Frankston)

Student members will rotate through Senior School Student Leadership Group

- Amadeo Ferra (Principal and DET member)
- James Daffey (DET/staff member)

Meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at least twice a term at 7pm at the school.

The School Council is the governing body of the school. The council plays an important role in school accountability and improvement and endorses all planning, evaluation and reporting documents.

The function of the School Council is to:

- Establish the broad direction and vision of the school within the school’s community
- Participate in the development and monitoring of the school strategic plan
- Develop, review and update school policies
- Develop, review and monitor the Student Engagement Policy and the School Dress Code
- Raise funds for school-related purposes
- Approve the annual budget and monitor expenditure
- Maintain the school’s grounds and facilities
- Enter into contracts (e.g. cleaning, construction work)
- Report annually to the school community and to DET
- Generally stimulate interest in the school in the wider community

We also currently have four subcommittees that anyone is welcome to be a part of. Subcommittee meetings usually occur at 6:30 pm on council meeting nights. The current subcommittees are:

- Curriculum and Policy
- Community Building
- Buildings and Grounds
- Finance
SCHOOL FEES

Thank you to the many parents who have finalised payment of school fees for essential education items and electives, camps, Edrolo etc, or who have organised a payment plan with the School Office. Prompt payment of these fees enables us to purchase resources to enhance student’s learning in classrooms such as our new literacy intervention program, PE equipment, art supplies, ICT equipment and so on. Families who have not yet paid their fees are asked to do so as soon as possible. Payments may be made in cash, BPay or via EFTPOS. Please speak to one of our friendly staff at the School Office if you have any questions on how to pay or need to organise a payment plan. We are very grateful that many of our families have chosen to also pay the small voluntary contribution of $50. With this money, we will support the introduction of a BYOD program we are hoping to introduce this year, support continued beautification of the school grounds and add to growing our library collection. It is not too late for families to choose to make this payment to help support our College. A reminder to families who are eligible to put in applications for the CSEF or if you are a Year 7 family (and eligible for CSEF) you may also apply for State Schools Relief Uniform Fund. Contact the office asap for more information.

EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS

From time to time we practice what we would do in an emergency situation. In recent weeks there have been a number of bomb threats in schools around the state and in fact across the country and other parts of the world. They have all turned out to be hoaxes, however we will of course always put the safety of students and staff as a priority and take them seriously. Our staff are familiar with our school’s emergency procedures and it is important that all parents and carers support us by ensuring your children take them seriously as well. Students are expected to follow all instructions given by staff immediately and we treat any case of students not following instructions very seriously. We also ask that parents not contact their children during these situations. This is based on the recommendation of emergency services as it clogs up phone lines that are crucial in such situations. Contact with your son or daughter during these situations can cause unnecessary distress or panic. Trust us to look after your sons and daughters in these situations and the best way to support them is to allow us and the emergency services to do their job. Our recent emergency evacuation practice drill went extremely well with all students and staff working cooperatively to test our processes.
PERSONAL PROPERTY BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This property can include mobile phones, music devices, electronic games, calculators, musical instruments, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to school and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. McClelland College does not have an insurance policy for lost, stolen or damaged personal property. Students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. Mobile phones brought to school remain the responsibility of the student and we cannot take responsibility for any loss of such items.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Department of Education and Training does not provide personal accident insurance for children. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured children, including any transport costs. Student accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare. They can be obtained by parents for individual children. Parents are reminded that McClelland College does not have a whole of school accident insurance policy.
YEAR 11 ENGLISH EXCURSION
Holocaust Museum, by Emily Mitchell.

It was emotional, to say the least. Even the front of the building was shocking to me, with sculpted hands reaching out of barbed wire towards the sky. The video that we were introduced to was like something I had never seen before. Sure, I had watched movies about the Holocaust, but never was I exposed to film of actual dead bodies - piles and piles of dead bodies, all frozen and piled on top of each other. If it was disturbing to me when I saw it, imagine how scarring it must have been for the people involved.

The museum itself was intriguing and it was eye-opening to see how many Jewish people actually died during the war. Women, men and children, all just people, killed because one man didn’t like their religion. Hitler was a fiend and anyone who supported him and his ideas was equally as bad. There are plenty of Nazis still out in the world today and although most of them are over 90 years old it is important that we don’t forget their crimes and give them the punishment they deserve for sentencing an entire religion to death.

We got the chance to hear a survivor’s story and were able to ask him questions afterwards. The survivor, Willy, told us his story in such vivid detail that it surprised me that a man of such an old age could recall things so well, though I suppose it would be hard to forget that kind of cruelty and torture.

He was about twenty when he went into a work camp and therefore was at least fifteen at the time the war started.

It’s crazy to think that someone around my age could experience such horrors and come through it as sane as ever.

At the end of his story we were allowed to ask questions, but I didn’t. I was too afraid that I was going to ask something sensitive and maybe trigger a painful memory. I know that if I was a part of an event that traumatic I’d never want to talk about it ever again. Yet the survivors didn’t tell their stories because they wanted to, they told them because they felt that they had to in order to prevent something like the Holocaust from ever happening again.

As they said, we are all one race; the human race, and we are obliged to care for each other and be civil towards one another in order to maintain a peaceful society.

NEW STUDENTS
By Madison Pym

We are pleased to be welcoming new students and families to the McClelland College Community for 2016. We hope you are all settling in well and feel prepared for the rest of the school year ahead. It is important to that all students feel welcome, safe and have the best possible attitude towards their schooling.

A new student lunch was held on Friday 4th March to welcome the new students in Years 10, 11 & 12. Students were provided with lunch and given the opportunity to meet School Captains, Senior Leaders, other new students and Assistant Principal Shaun Doherty. It was a great experience for the students to socialise and the lunch proved to be a success. All new students commented on how welcome and safe they felt at McClelland College.
YEAR 11 & 12 VCE ASSEMBLY 1

By Kara Gale & Jacob Adams

The VCE assembly on the 28th of February was our first assembly of the year that put forth a foundation for the year.

The assembly began with a music item from our music captain Olivia Ahern. Mr Doherty (Acting Assistant Principal) was then introduced.

Senior College Captains were presented with their certificates and their badge and each one gave a short speech about their vision for 2016!

Other items addressed were Senior Formal, Access Monash, Camps, Themestock, and Swimming sports. Certificates were also presented to SES students who achieved first aid qualifications. Congratulations to those students that received an award.

Jacob and I felt a really good vibe from both Year 11's and 12's, our peers remained attentive and patient which made us very proud to be their leaders.

As leaders, Kara and I wanted to establish the responsibility that we have as Captains, and the responsibility the senior school has in relation to being the role models of the school.

We want to create a welcoming and trusting relationship between our fellow peers, as well as our teachers. For instance, we want students to feel comfortable within the school community, especially for junior students who are still warming up to secondary school.

Overall, we feel that our first assembly was a success, and we anticipate our next job as Captains.
MUSIC CAPTAIN

My name is Olivia Ahern, I’m in Year 12 and have been elected to be a senior music captain. I have been involved with the McClelland College music department since I was in Year 7 and have enjoyed being involved with ensemble and solo rehearsals and performances.

My main goal for next year is to help create as many performance opportunities as possible for music students, I believe achieving this goal will improve the confidence in music students regarding their performance skills and confidence in other areas such as interacting and working with others.

I also believe creating more performance opportunities for students is a great way for students to meet and form relationships with others and be able to call the music department a place where they belong, which will overall enrich their high school experience.

ACCESS MONASH MENTORING INDUCTION

On the 11th February six Yr 11 and 12 students participated in an induction for Access Monash Mentoring program. Kara Galea, Emma Tadday, Tate Bosmans, Shani Bartlett, Caitlin Anderson and Justin Cardy applied to be a part of this new program for McClelland College students in 2016. Students had the opportunity to learn about the program and meet key Monash staff. Students will be meeting their mentors this week and beginning a valuable relationship with them that will support them with their studies in VCE and ultimately their transition into university post school.

ELEVATE EDUCATION

Yr 11 & 12 students in study space have participated in two workshops run by Elevate Education over the last few weeks focussed on how to effectively manage their study and maximise their results in VCE. Time management and memory mnemonics were covered and students learnt the importance of developing a study timetable as well as tips on enhancing memory. Year 12 students will also have a workshop in September that will support them on how to ‘Ace Your Exams.’
The goal of this program is to support students who are focussed on improvements in increasing their study score goals for 2016. We will be launching the program on Tuesday 15th March with a lunch and there will be a program of events and activities throughout the year that students can access to learn more about maximising their success in their studies.

**PATHWAYS PLANNING**

During Term 2 all Year 12 students will begin discussions relating to planning for their post school options in 2017. Meetings will be scheduled with Jackie Woods during MAP study space or at other times. All students are encouraged to read Career News that is posted by Jackie on [http://www.mcclellandcollegecareers.com/](http://www.mcclellandcollegecareers.com/) in preparation for these meetings. Students should be attending career events at universities and TAFES to begin their exploration of courses. Monash University has now begun its Insider Monash Seminar Series [http://www.monash.edu/study](http://www.monash.edu/study) which is a great opportunity to find about courses offered at Monash.

**KEY DATES IN TERM 2**

**Senior Formal** - Thursday 21st April

**Exam Week**—30th May – 3rd June

**TIS (Tertiary Information Session for Yr 12 students only)** - Friday 3rd June

**TRAG (Yr 12 only)** - Monday 6th June

**GAT (Unit 3 & 4 students)** - Tuesday 7th June

Students should be accessing [www.elevateeducation.com.au](http://www.elevateeducation.com.au) to download revision and support material to assist with their study management.

**EDROLO**

All students who have Edrolo subjects should now be utilising the Theory Master videos available and Topic tests for their first areas of study. Edrolo is an effective study and revision tool that helps students to consolidate their learning in the classroom and revise effectively for assessment tasks. Topic tests allow students to review their understanding of content. All students who have access to Edrolo should now have finalised payment of $25 per subject or families can organise a payment plan with the office.

**ASPIRE HIGHER**

Yr 11 and 12 students have been selected to be a part of our Aspire Higher Program for 2016. These students have been selected based on teacher recommendations and evidence of strong work ethic and commitment to their VCE studies.
VCAL VISION

Students have been working hard on their action plan for the following projects in VCAL for 2016:

- Free smoothie day
- ‘Magic the Gathering’ game night
- ‘Furry’ hang out
- Painting around the school
- Sausage sizzle
- VCAFE
- Car wash
- Easter raffle
- Fundraising for VCAL
- Gym/weights room
- VCAL excursion/camp
- Improving the operations of VCAFE
- QSA Queer Straight Alliance (creating a safe place in the school)
- Renovating G-Block for relocation of VCAFE
- Painting in VMAX
- Outside furniture
- Maintenance work (roof repairs in VCAL with Simon Church)
- Building a sound room
- Ongoing training for VCAFE
- SES change room
- Catering
- Camp Mahaikah maintenance/renovations

Our students have been working on projects both around the school, and for our community.

Come visit VCAL and ask our students about their VCAL Vision for helping the school and the community!

LIFE AFTER VCAL

AMY HAY – HAPPY IN HAIRDRESSING!

Amy is working at Coco’s Hairdressing Salon in Mount Eliza. She is in the third year of her apprenticeship and is enjoying the social interaction with the clients. She is especially relishing the opportunity to learn about the industry and practise her hairdressing skills on a daily basis.

Amy expresses the following: “I love making people feel good about themselves”
**YEAR 9**

It has been a busy start to the year with students out on Outdoor Education Camps, excursions, interschool sport and helping around the school with community service. We are proud of the way that many of our Year 9 students have been demonstrating our college values of community, ownership and growth not just in the classroom but in our wider school community.

We celebrated Pi day on 14 March (3:14 for those of you who were wondering why!!). Students created a visual representation of pi with paper chains, conducted investigations about the application of Pi in everyday life and we celebrated with party pies, is it a coincidence that 3:14 backwards looks suspiciously like the word PIE??

NAPLAN will soon be upon us, starting May 10-12. To help your student prepare for their final NAPLAN testing there is practice tests available at [http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests.html)

**YEAR 10**

**ATTENDANCE**

Year 10 students must have any absences authorised on the day of the absence by phoning Alison Fox on 9788 2046. From the 14th March, students who accumulate 3 periods of unauthorised absence within a 2 week period will be required to complete an after school detention to catch up on the work missed.

So far we have been very impressed with the attendance of majority of the cohort and hope to see this continue throughout the year.

**WORK PLACEMENT**

Students should complete and return their work placement paperwork before the end of term. The work placement dates are 9th-13th May. Year 10 students must complete a work placement to gain an S for Unit 1 Industry and Enterprise. If students are unsure about how to find a work placement their first contact should be their Personal Futures teacher.
YEAR 7 TRANSITION WEEK

This year has been really interesting so far - we’ve done so many things. But so far, The BEST thing we’ve done is ‘Year 7 Transition Week’. Erica W

During transition week all the year sevens got to do a range of different activities including: AMF bowling, Luna Park, dance class, beach day and Gumbuya Park. My favourite activity was Luna Park because there were a lot of cool rides. My least favourite activity was Gumbuya Park because there was a lot people pushing in the line. Jack G

We went to the beach. It was great fun with friends and my favourite part of being at the beach was going on the SPEEDBOAT. Ash W

Wednesday we went to a dance production at the PAC – it was really funny and I learnt the moves to the hip hop dance – I have to say I was pretty good at it! Josh S

Bowling was amazing - mainly because I won both games! We went to Ballam Park and then watched a movie in the MAX afterwards. It was a great experience. Vivone S

On Tuesday, all the Year 7s went to Luna Park – Luna Park was closed to the public so it was just us. My favourite rides were the Spider and the Bumper Cars. It was so fun! Hayden C

Friday the last day of transition week ended at Gumbuya Park! It was free for all day. I didn’t go on many times because is didn’t really has the chance but it was amazing anyways...The week ended on a good note. Makayla B
START TERM 1—YEAR 8

Term 1 has got off to a fabulous start, with Year 8s really stepping up to the requirements of both the curriculum and behaviour as a general rule. Well done, Year 8s!

As you might already be aware, students have been working on a project to transform the look, sound and feel of the Year 8 staircase to reflect our school values of “Community, Ownership and Growth”. Stewart Griffin gives us an insight into his experiences as part of the Start Beats program:

"Start Beats was fun, and I had something to look forward to besides the weekend! It gave a good spark to school - a bit of art learning and, of course, rapping! It let us express emotion and our thoughts, and the fun was perfectly balanced with the learning so I didn’t really notice the learning."
SWIMMING SPORTS
By Kaitlyn Drew & Caleb Brown, Sports Captains

With swimming sports now finished we are glad to say that the day was a lot of fun, unfortunately the weather was against us but we did not let it get the best of us. We had lots of students participating from all year levels and even more students cheering the participants on. In the end the house that was victorious was Green House! Congratulations for all those who swam and won it for them.

First off we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone this year who participated in swimming sports, we had a big participation rate this year compared to the years before, everyone who swam was awesome and the costumes looked amazing! Even though some might not have been in the water, it did not stop them from supporting their fellow peers who were competing, there were loads of costumes ranging from the Joker, to Harley Quinn, Nurses, Bananas, Clowns and more! It was definitely a fantastic day and the Year 12 definitely went all out in their costumes!

This year in the house competition, although it was very close, we had Green House coming in first! So congratulations to everyone for their amazing win but not to say that everyone else in the other houses did not give it their all!

One slight downside to the day is that the weather did turn out a little poorly with it starting to rain towards the end of the day, but this did not stop anyone from competing as we still had lots of people racing until the end of the day.

Being the second year at Doveton pool we are still getting used to its facilities and so far we have been getting nothing but positive reviews about it. The water slide being open to select year levels at a time was a huge hit as there was lots of people continuously going up and down all day. It’s three pools served very useful when it came to the fun little games, water polo and the actual racing. One of the halls was opened up for all the Year 12 students to enjoy and talk to themselves in while keeping out of the rain to avoid ruining their costumes and foyer was popular to all other year levels to sit down and relax.

All up we would like to thank everyone for an awesome day and we hope you had as much fun as we did.
SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The school swimming carnival was held at Doveton Pool on Wednesday 17th February. All year levels came and competed for top house and first place in their event. Throughout the day it rained quite a lot, but that didn’t stop anyone from supporting their team or swimming in the pool. With the whole school swimming to get points for their house to win… in the end Green house won, much to Mr Harms’ delight. Thank you to all the people organising, competing and joining in the fun of our swimming sports day!

Vivone Street

YEAR 9 & 10 OUTDOOR EDUCATION

With the return of Outdoor & Environmental Studies to the curriculum in 2016, two groups of Year 9 & 10 students both experienced fantastic weather conditions and coastal activities down at Wilson’s Promontory National Park during their 3 day camps in February. The focus of both outdoor camps were around students developing skills, knowledge and behaviours that promote safe and conservational interactions in such pristine natural environments. Students experienced excellent beginner surf conditions during multiple surfing activities. They also were challenged with cooking on trangias (portable camp stoves) for the first time, hiking to the top of Mt Oberon and enjoyed the moonlight cinema before tiring to bed. Both groups gained a lot of outdoor preparation and camping experience leading into future camps this year at the Grampians and Mt. Sterling. A huge thank you to Ms Collins, Ms Richards, Mr Ellison-Jones and Mr Boulter for supporting Mr Watson in the running of these fun-filled outdoor experiences.

Makayla Bruguera
Music Department

The McClelland College music department offers a vast variety of instruments a student can choose to learn. A student can choose to take lessons teaching them a variety of skills in areas such as: instrumental technique, musical theory, pitch and performance etc. Some of the instruments a student can chose to learn include vocals, percussion, instruments in the brass category (such as the trumpet, trombone and french horn etc.), the woodwind category (such as clarinet, saxophone and the flute etc.) and the bowed strings category (such as the violin, the cello and viola etc.)

There are many ensemble groups a student can chose to be a part of in the college; a student will be recommended for an ensemble group based on what instrument they play and their technique and musical knowledge level. Most notably, the school offers 4 orchestral bands; Junior band, intermediate band, concert band and stage band. These bands, in particular the former two, are known for their enthusiastic performances in the local community and at school events.

An event McClelland College students should keep an eye out for is an upcoming lunchtime fundraiser put on by Michaela Gabbe and the VCE music class. The concert will be located outside, opposite the canteen, and will feature a sausage sizzle, delicious food and drink treats, as well as a variety of performances by the VCE music class. The concert will take place on April the 26th and all money made will go towards Year 12 students having an accompanist for their end of year performance exam.

More information will be released closer to the date. Please come along and buy some delicious food and watch some sweet performances... It's for a great cause!

Wellbeing and Student services

2016 COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR WINNER

Since 2012 students in the McClelland College CONNECT Re-engagement program have been involved in the Colour of Hope Youth Art program run by LifeGate Inc. Over a period of six months students participate in weekly art sessions with LifeGate outreach worker Lauryn Hornby and at the conclusion of the program the student's wonderful artwork is displayed in an exhibition at CUBE 37 Gallery – Frankston Arts Centre. The program not only provides young people with an opportunity to achieve positive recognition; it allows them to use art as a cathartic tool for self-expression and healing.

Community members who viewed this year’s exhibitions expressed a range of emotions, from pride in our local young artists to amazement over the level of talent these emerging artists have showcased.

We are very proud to announce that this year the Colour of Hope Art Exhibition was recognised as the Frankston City Council Community Event of the Year. Danielle Harry CONNECT Coordinator attended the 2016 Frankston City Citizens of the year ceremony to accept the award from Mayor Cr James Dooley alongside LifeGate Founder's Pastor Ulli Rothstein de Roldan and Reverend Angel Roldan.
INFORMATION COMMONS
Opening Hours: 8.30 am – 4.30 pm.

Services Available
Laminating $1 A4 + A3
Binding $2

ROK and ROK ON
The ROK and ROK ON reading classes have commenced for the year. A number of students are well on their way to achieving their goals. Once students have finished a book they fill out their Reading Record form and then conference with their teacher or the library.

Awards are presented at the end of each Semester:-
Certificate: 800 pages
Bronze Medal: 1500 pages
Silver Medal: 3000 pages
Gold Medal: 5000 pages
Trophy: 10,000 pages

NEW BOOKS
The Games of lives – James Daner
Sorry I’m not sorry – NancRue
Unforgiven – LaurenKtete
The after-room – MaileMeloy
Bro – Helen Chebatte
Hell’s Belles – Tatum Flynn
Changers – T. Cooper & A Glock-Cooper
Boy23 – Jim Carrington
Yellow – Megan Jacobson
Inside out – Maria V. Snyder
Crime Buster – Pauline Hosking
Jet the rescue dog – David Long
Ned Kelly – Hugh Dolan
Graphic novel
Stars of World Soccer – Jvkulsson Illugi
Sock, sandbags & leeches – Pauline Deeves
Why did The Holocaust happen? – Sean Sheehan
The Chinese Empire – Ellis Roxburgh

FAVOURITE BOOK OF THE MONTH
Diary of a wimpy kid: Old school
Life was better in the old days. Or was it?
That’s the question Greg Heffley is asking as his town voluntarily unplugs and goes electronics-free.

But modern life has its conveniences, and Greg isn’t cut out for an old-fashioned world.

With tension building inside and outside the Heffley home, will Greg find a way to survive?

Or is going “old school” just too hard for a kid like Greg?
Registration Day

Pines Junior Football Netball Club
Sunday the 14th of February 2016 at 11am till 3pm Eric Bell Reserve Forest Dr Frankston North

★ Under 9’s to Under 17’s we are also looking for girls 9 - 12, 13 - 15, and 16 - 18

★ Under 9’s 1/2 PRICE Registration and 1st year players in all age groups 1/2 PRICE Registration.

★ 1/2 price $60 Full Price $120 We also have family discounts for multiple children

★ Come down and try our wonderful family friendly club.

★ We also have our Auskick up and running from age 5 and up starting on the 1st of April 2016 5 - 6

Coaches are current and Ex senior players FREE Sausage sizzle and jumping castle

For Further information contact: President: Scott White 0409 114 535 Or Sally 0447 313 02

Mad Hatter’s Tea Party

Attached is a flyer for the next major fund-raising event that is running on Saturday March the 19th at 6pm.
To those of you who do not know about the foundation.
It was established after the loss of an ex-student Chris Barrett in March 2010. It devastated the school community and his family but from that day the family has worked positively to support other young people with similar issues.

The major aim is to promote the awareness of youth mental health issues and assist with fundraising towards various organizations such as Orygen, the Australians for Mental Health campaign, Youth Beyond Blue and Peninsula Headspace.

Attendance is encouraged – all ages are welcome – bring out your inner child on the equipment.

There will be fun and games to look forward to including the ‘human hungry hippos’ activity.

You can dress up in Fancy Dress or masquerade masks which is also encouraged with prizes for various categories.

Tickets are available through the www.chrisbarrettfoundation.org website store
WANTED: STUDENT WITH DANCE EXPERIENCE, Hip Hop/Contemporary preferable, must be fit, confident, vivacious & stage & mic comfortable. Zyta will train students dance/fitness instruction $18p/h & $20 per class instruction. Contact Judy on (03) 8790 8918 or zytaworkout@gmail.com to enquire.
Frankston Little Athletics
Cross Country - Season 2016

Have you tried Cross Country?
Cross country is a great way for kids (and parents) to keep fit! It provides a great warm up or training run for other sports (football, netball, tennis, soccer etc.) and the opportunity to meet with friends and enjoy a run in the park.

Parents are invited to join in - either running with your child or on your own. You can take it seriously (run for a PB) or simply enjoy a run around Ballam Park with friends. Either way it’s fun for the whole family. For parents not running, relax and enjoy a coffee with the paper while the kids enjoy catching up with friends and keeping fit!

Most of all it’s a fun, relaxing and friendly atmosphere for parents and children to kick-start the weekend whilst keeping fit at the same time.

Come down and give it a go!
Venue: Ballam Park Athletics Centre, Benanee Drive, Karingal.
When: Saturday mornings. Season starts April 9.
Time: Sign-in 9:00am; Events 9:15am.
Duration: Approximately 1 hour for all events to complete.
Course: All event courses start in the athletics arena, loop around Ballam Park and finish back in the arena.
Cost: $2.50 per person per event (one event per person per session).

All children must be registered with Little Athletics Victoria. Athletes who have registered for the 2015-2016 Track & Field (summer) season are already registered. New comers will need to register via the LAVic website (www.lavic.com.au) – select the “Cross Country” option.

For further information please visit the Cross Country page on our website http://xc.flac.com.au
Having ‘The Talk’

Although the topic of ‘sex’ can be difficult to raise, it is an important topic for all parents to talk about in their own way.

Think back to how your parents spoke to you about the topic. If sex wasn’t talked about, maybe you got the message that sex is embarrassing and shouldn’t be discussed.

Research is revealing for parents on this subject and suggests that there is no golden moment or correct age to begin talking about sex.

You know your children best and you will be the best judge your children’s readiness to talk about sex and sexual health. Having ‘The Talk’ too early will not traumatise kids but you may realise that they do not understand and it may be better to wait.

There is no evidence at all that sex education of any kind leads to earlier or increased sexual activity. In fact, there is a body of research which tells us that sex education means that young people are more likely to delay sexual intercourse and are better prepared for it when the time comes. When young people have information about sex and sexual health, they are more likely to make good decisions which keep them safe and happy.

Here are some tips for parents as they talk about sex and sexual health with their children:

- Use casual opportunities to talk such as in the car or when washing the dog together.
- Show that you are really willing to listen – try not to interrupt.
- Assure them that you will respect their privacy and confidence.

If talking seems too hard then remember the most important thing is to be a great role model by demonstrating healthy and respectful relationships in your own life.


Helping you to quit

Did you know that smoking is known to increase the risk of lung cancer, heart disease, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and many other diseases?

If you're someone who is interested in quitting, there is local support to help.

Peninsula Health Quit Smoking Support Services:

- Are available in different styles to suit your individual needs.
- Are available in Frankston, Mornington, Rosebud and Hastings.
- Provide support to improve health.
- Support anyone around quitting and empower you to give up smoking.

Individual sessions are available at $20 with a maximum of $40 for non-card holders. Fees can be waived if required due to difficulties or inability to pay.

Don’t delay – plan for a healthier future for you and your family today.

Contact Peninsula Health for quitsmoking@peninsulahealth.org.au or phone 1300 666 181.
Counselling Services

Peninsula Health provides counselling services through their community health sites in Frankston, Mornington, Hastings and Rosebud.

Counsellors (social workers and psychologists) will assist you to make positive changes in your life. We work with you to identify goals and find ways to tackle problems using the skills and resources you already have.

The counsellor does not judge, give advice, nor direct you to take a certain course of action, but will help you to find a better way to deal with your situation and to make your own decisions.

Counsellors can help with:

- Stress and anxiety
- Sadness and depression
- Grief and loss
- Managing chronic illness
- Dealing with trauma
- Family issues including family violence
- Personal relationships
- Parenting and child behaviour issues
- Separation issues
- Referral to other services

To book an appointment with the Peninsula Health Counselling Team, phone 1300 665 781.

Other services are also available to help with specific issues. Some suggestions are listed below:

- Relationship counselling – Relationships Australia 5990 1900, Family Life 9770 0341 or Life works 9783 7611
- SEcasa for sexual assault including Crisis Response Line 9594 2289 (business hours), 1800 806 292 (after hours)
- Lifeline 13 11 14 (24 hours)
- Parentline 13 22 89
- Child Protection DHS – 1300 655 795

Women’s Family Violence crisis support:
- 9789 4658 (Frankston WAYSS), 5971 9594 (Mornington Peninsula PFV Service), 1800 015 188 (After Hours Crisis Service)

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