



WILLIAM RUTHVEN
SECONDARY COLLEGE

Secondary News

March 2017 term 1

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM2

first day back for students will be
Wednesday April 19th

pupil-free day on Tuesday April 18th



Parents are reminded to please return Students Asthma Plans to the General Office ASAP. As it a requirement from the department that we have student Asthma Plans at the start of each year.



Dear Parents and carers,

It's with great pleasure that we can confirm that our B wing demolition is almost complete, and that our rebuilding project is out to tender!

We are grateful for the support of the **Minister James Merlino** and **Minister Robin Scott** who attended the college on March 12 to recognise the significance of the occasion for our local community. We now look forward to watching the new buildings rise from the grounds in the near future.

If you have not had a chance to see what it all looks like, take a look at the **Victorian School Building Authority** website <http://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/pages/schools/William-Ruthven-Secondary-College.aspx>.

We are all looking forward to the exciting times ahead! Nonetheless our focus remains on the now, and creating learning opportunities for all our students. It has been a very pleasing first term, with students and staff adapting to the changes in environment and remaining committed to the learning progress. Just in the last month our students have participated in many excursions, including Year 9 Inquiry **Salvation Army and Big Issue**, **Physics to Luna Park**, **Tennis, Volleyball** Year 8 to **National Gallery of Victoria**. Our Year 7's also undertook a very successful camp, and came back tired but happy. Unfortunately, we did miss out on the opportunity for our Athletic Sports due to inclement weather, which was disappointing. We will attempt to find a day next term to hold them as they are a highlight for our students.

Ms Benney was lucky enough to take some Year 9 students to **RMIT University** last month to talk to beginning teachers about what they liked and didn't like in teachers, and to provide them with some advice as they began their training. **Bianca Calvene, Manttana Tuara, & Jordan Whykes** were highly articulate and very forthright, and were commended by all the university staff for the way in which they represented **William Ruthven Secondary College**. We are very proud of the way in which all our students conduct themselves, and send such a positive message to the community.



It is always pleasing to see the number of parents and students who participate in our parent/teacher evenings. This connection with your child's learning is important and we encourage you to continue to work with us to ensure that they have every chance to succeed. If you were unable to attend, we encourage you to contact your child's teachers and arrange a telephone interview to check on their progress. Staff are always willing to provide feedback in order to enhance learning.

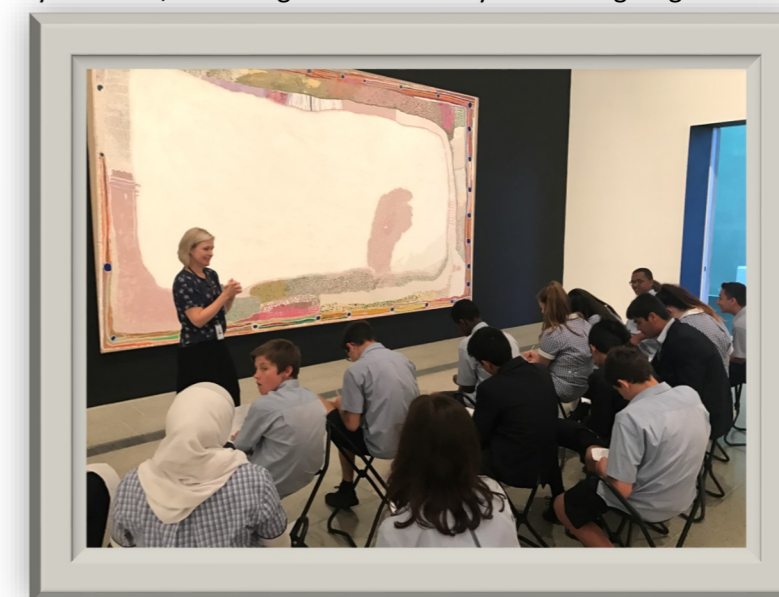
At the end of the School Council election period, we are able to advise the composition of the **2017 School Council** as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Michael Grogan | President and community representative |
| Tamara Parkes | Vice President and parent representative |
| Ange Kalitis | Parent representative |
| Rachael Scott | Parent representative |
| Helen Molini | Parent representative |
| Paul Johnson | DET representative |
| Trevor Thomas | DET representative |
| Judi Benney | Executive Officer & DET representative |

[Year 8 Excursion to the NGV and Melbourne Laneways.](#)

On Tuesday the 7th of March, the Year 8 students went on an exciting excursion to view the Indigenous artworks at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) and explore the street art in **Melbourne City's** alleys and laneways. In the NGV, we viewed an exhibition that focuses on the colours used in Indigenous artwork created by women. The guides at the gallery taught us more about the messages and stories behind the artwork, and helped us complete our 4-Step Process of Looking and Analysing artwork. A great artwork was the **'Imperial Leather'** by **Julie Gough**, as it illustrates how Indigenous people were seen by the European settlers so many years ago, in a completely new and interesting way. After the NGV, we went on an adventure to explore the graffiti covered alleyways. Everyone was able to look at all the colours and techniques used and try to work out the meanings behind some of the artwork. We got to take many pictures and even watched someone work on their street art. This helped us understand more about how street art is created and how many layers of people's stories and passion are decorating the walls of the alleys. Overall, it was a great and fun day of learning disguised in a full day of activity and exploration.

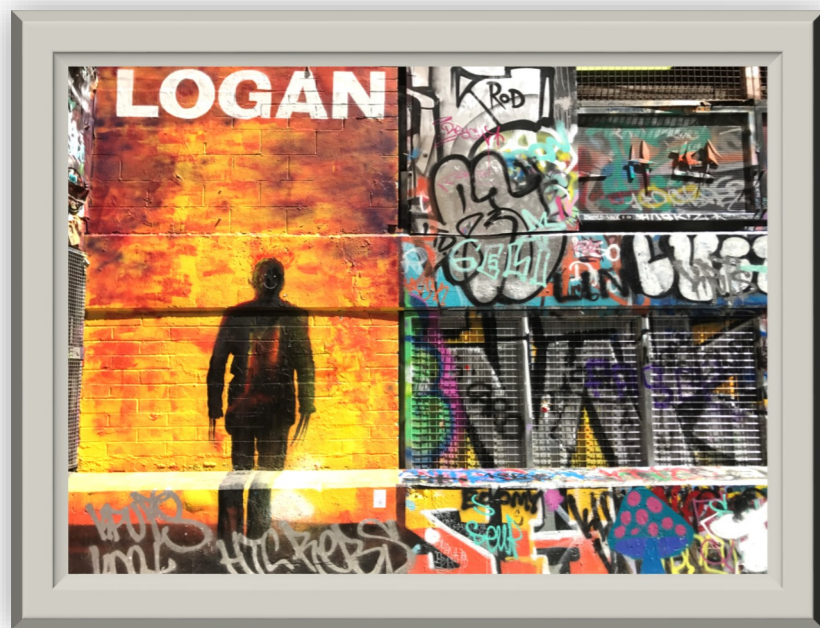
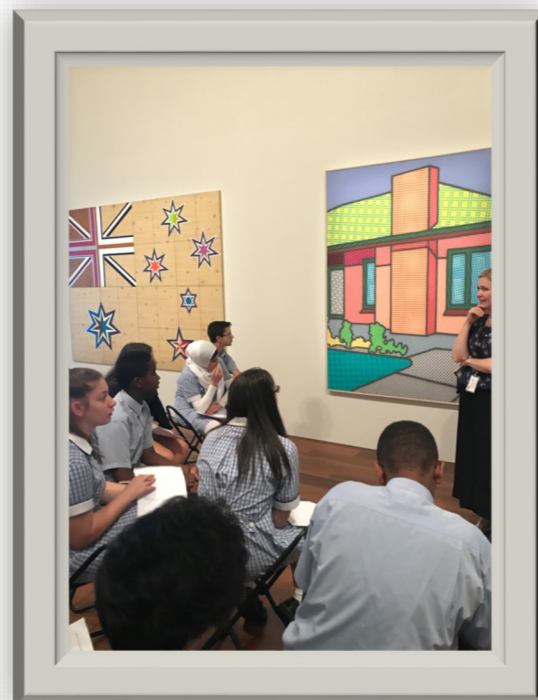
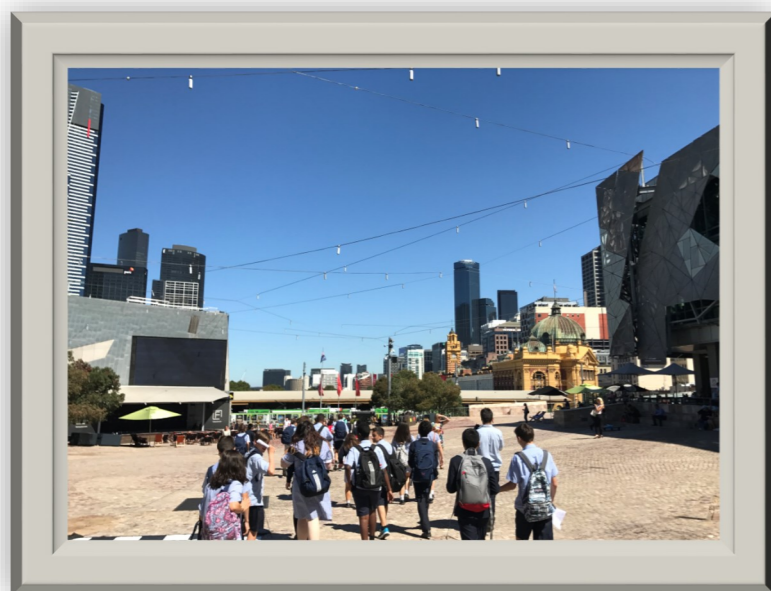
Annie Huynh 8B



Excursion to the NGV and Melbourne Laneways

On Tuesday, the 7th of March the year 8's attended an excursion to the **National Gallery of Victoria (NGV)**. While we were at the NGV we looked at a series of pieces of art. One of my favourite was the Yam Dreaming. We studied this piece of art in school but learned more about it at the NGV. During the trip around the NGV we had a sheet we completed that we have been studying in class called the 4-step process. During the excursion, we visited the Melbourne laneway Hosier lane. Hosier lane is a street full of art works that are painted on the wall. While the year 8 students were in the street we were observing all the colour and trying to discover the meaning behind the artwork. It was a fun day and we had a series of journeys to overcome.

Khalid Muse 8A



There is still a vacancy for a parent representative on School Council, and we encourage you to think about joining this important governing body as we plan for the future of our college. Should you like further information, please don't hesitate to contact one of us to discuss.

As we head into the term break, we remind you that the **first day back for students will be Wednesday April 19th**, as we have a pupil-free day on Tuesday April 18th. Staff will be undertaking professional learning to improve their capacity as educational leaders in our school community on this day.

Thank you as always for your support of our college. We look forward to seeing you in Term 2.

Judi Benney
Principal

Paul Johnson
Assistant Principal

Andrew Elborough
Assistant Principal

DAREBIN COUNCIL NEWS

Every four years Darebin Council develop a plan that outlines how they are going to help and support improving the health and wellbeing of people of all age groups who live, work, play and study in Darebin.

An online consultation platform has been developed - [Your Say Darebin](http://yoursaydarebin.com.au) will help inform the 2017-2021 Darebin Health and Wellbeing Plan. The online consultation will help Council to understand the needs of the community in terms of health, and social and emotional wellbeing.

All students, parents and teachers are encouraged to have their say by following the link:

<http://yoursaydarebin.com.au/darebinhealthandwellbeingplan>



Lady Northcote Camp 2017

On the 6th of March 2017, 45 students from the Year 7 from **William Ruthven Secondary College** went to camp at **Lady Northcote** near **Bacchus Marsh**. From the school to **Lady Northcote** it took around one and a half hours on bus to arrive at our destination. When we arrived, we were shown the common area, which was right next to the kitchen. In the common area, we learned about the activities we were going to take part in, the rules of the camp, and when to come back to the common area. It took a while to get the cabins ready, so while the cabins were being prepared, our supervisor Ash gave us a tour of the camp.

Ash showed us where all the activities would take place, and showed us other things we could do in our free time. After we found out where everything was, we were put into groups, and had to take part in an amazing race.

During the amazing race, we had to go to all the activities and complete them, depending on how good we did on the activity, we got points, we could also get points for answering various questions, and the winning group was awarded the chance to be served first with every meal.

For dinner, we had spaghetti, with either Bolognese sauce, pasta sauce, or fettuccini sauce. For dessert, we had ice-cream with a selection of toppings, there was chocolate, caramel, blue heaven, and strawberry. Before it was time to bed, **Mr Elborough** took everybody outside to walk around for a bit, since it was dark we all carried torches with us, we also tried to find possums, as that would award our cabin with points. We had to go to sleep after the bush walk, so we could get ready for our activities for the next day.

Before we went to our first activity, we had breakfast. For breakfast, there was a wide variety of cereals, and pancakes. Every group had a different first activity, my group was **Mr Elborough's** group, and we had Yabbying as our first activity. First, we had to walk to the lake, when we got there we began preparing our bait. To prepare the bait, we tied a piece of meat around a rope, grabbed a net, sunk the bait into the water and waited. Surprisingly, the yabbies came quickly, I caught one that only had 1 arm, instead of 2. After everyone caught a few yabbies, we counted them, and found out we had approximately 70 yabbies! We had to release the yabbies.

After yabbying we went to the high ropes course, which had many different courses to take part in. Every course had to have 3 people helping the person climbing, so the rope didn't tangle. The high ropes courses were 8 metres high, and had some sort of obstacle to get across, and to get off we simply just jumped off. Lunch time crawled up after the high ropes, so we had lunch which was a sandwich that we could pick the contents of.

The final activity of the second day was Orienteering, for Orienteering we were given a map, and a colour, another group received the same things so the two groups could race. With those items, we had to find bricks with letters on them that spelled out a sentence when put together, the sentence would reveal the location of a card that had a riddle that we had to solve to win the race. My group won the race, and had to wait 20 minutes for the other group to finally finish their sentence.

This time for dinner we had chicken schnitzel with vegetables and gravy/tomato sauce. Instead of a bush walk this time, we watched a movie, there was a vote between Moana, and Mrs Doubtfire, Mrs Doubtfire won by a mile. Eventually it came time to hit the hay, to get ready for the final day at camp.

It was the final day but we had to finish our activities. Firstly, we had breakfast, which instead of pancakes, it was eggs and bacon, still with the choice of cereal.

Immediately after breakfast we went on to the Giant Swing, which was 21 metres high! Everyone went on one at a time, first we had to apply the harness, then our supervisor would lock us into the swing, and tell us what to do at the top. Pulling the rope to detach the harness was probably the scariest part, since it whiplashes you backwards, swinging through the air until you eventually came to a stop. There wasn't enough time for more than 1 turn per person, so everybody only had 1 turn. While somebody was hooked up, everyone else pulled the person up the swing unless they asked to stop, which not many people did. The giant swing activity went quickly, and after that we went to our final activity, the initiatives course.

The initiatives course was built mainly on teamwork, so it was very difficult. One of the challenges was to balance on a large board, using only our bodies, and we were guided by one of the group members, so nobody listened to him. We failed that challenge, but there was another of which that we had to use pads to walk across the ground, ensuring that our feet are always touching the pads, at the start we were going good but once a few people reached the end, everyone messed up. We learned a lot about teamwork during the initiatives course, but after that it was time to say our goodbyes to **Lady Northcote** and we boarded the bus and to back to our school on the 8th of March.

Dion Iacobucci and Megan Hallett

