

## HARVESTER LAUNCHES COMMUNITY PROJECTS

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Students at Harvester Technical College have embarked on a series of community based projects in an effort to forge strong relationships with the broader Sunshine community. As we move into a new semester, **Mind Australia** has aided our year 12 Senior Literacy students to begin a collaborative partnership project with the McPherson Community Centre. In conjunction with the clients at the mental health facility, students will be completely revamping their backyard. With plans to install a water feature; raised timber garden beds; and hand crafted seating, students are working hard to produce their design plans for the coming weeks.



Students are also working closely with the Sunshine Hospital to design and construct a new seating area for clients to relax and take in their surroundings. Watch this space to keep updated on the community projects of 2014!



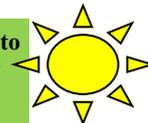
### SPORTS NEWS!

As the school continues to expand so too does the sports department. With a new gym and new sports uniform unveiled this week, Harvester PE students can look forward to a jam packed year full of competitive inter-school sports! Check out the latest news on Harvester most recent sporting endeavours on page 3!



### FIELD TRIPS KINGLAKE NATIONAL PARK

Both Carpentry classes embarked on a site seeing adventure to Kinglake National Park and Toolangi forest. Check out their trip on page 2!



Senior Fast Track students experienced an informative and challenging day at Barwon Prison where they engaged with the prison education program.

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

These are challenging times for those involved in the education of young people in the West of Melbourne. Recent budgets at both the State and Federal level have signalled a period of uncertainty for workers, particularly young people, seeking careers in the traditional industries in the West.

The Automotive and related industries are clearly shrinking as are some of the traditional manufacturing pathways.

At Harvester, we are working hard to create programs which are well informed by up-to-date research and community studies into the future workforce and skills required to ensure our graduates have their best chance to find sustainable employment after leaving us. The College is committed to preparing our students with skills and knowledge to seek employment in the growing and stable local industries as well as projected growth areas in the outer Western and North Western corridors. We are prioritising effective ways for supporting our young people to maximise their opportunities to make a successful transition from

school to work and further study.

Our strong emphasis on coursework based in industry is part of this commitment. From time to time our families need re-assurance about the value of industry and community based learning activities.

The continued success of our recent block of Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) where 95% our students were successfully placed, is clear indication of the importance of this aspect of our program. The vast majority of the employers were very complimentary about our students and already several have offered our students apprenticeships at the successful completion of their school year. This is great news and all placed students should feel very proud of their efforts.

The completion of our long awaited Trade Training Centre is finally upon us. We will devote our next newsletter to this important event but for now, can I take this opportunity to thank the TTC Project team, brilliantly led by Mark Natoli and assisted by Aaron Powter, who has patiently driven this complex project. Their high

quality work will ensure that we are taking receipt of a state of the art, industry standard facility that will stand us in good stead far into the foreseeable future. More exciting detail about the Grand Opening in our next issue.

On a different note, I am delighted that our Community Projects initiative is thriving and proving very popular both with students and the community services we are supporting.

Equally, our representative sports teams are doing a great job at role modelling to neighbouring schools who we are when our students are at their best. Seeing them striving for success in our flash new team shirts fills me with pride. Well done to all involved!

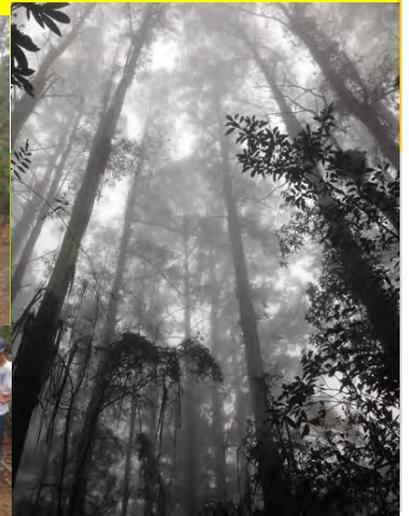
Mandy Patmore  
Principal

## KINGLAKE CARPENTRY EXCURSION

The 2 Carpentry classes both attended camps to Kinglake National Park and Toolangi forest at the end of last term. Both groups undertook the challenging walk up the fire trails to Masons Falls for a well earned lunch break, though, with the dry weather they were not as spectacular as they could have been.

With a few overnight showers on both camps students braved the wet and set up tents at The Gums Campsite in Kinglake and warmed up with a range of meals from 2 minute noodles to fried pork belly and surf and turf steak complete with prawns!

Day 2 of the camp involved some tours of the different forests of the area and a look at timber as a renewable resource. Students then visited a logging coupe to gain and understanding of how timber is harvested and the replanting and regeneration processes. Overall both camps were very successful and a big thank you to students for making it an enjoyable experience for all.



# 03 HARVESTER SPORTS NEWS

It has been a busy term for Sport at Harvester Technical College, with the Senior Cricket, Rugby and AFL teams all strutting their stuff.

## CRICKET:

On a dark and overcast day, the Senior Cricket Team participated in Inter-School Cricket. The mood on the bus on the way to the ground was positive, with a few of the boys, particularly Brayden Ryan, talking up their abilities. Well, we are glad to report back that this confidence was backed up by Brayden as he smashed an unbeaten 50 in the first match and 25 not out in the second match. The boys did really well, competed with passion and endeavour and were rewarded with a win against Gilson College before losing to Copperfield College.



## RUGBY LEAGUE

The Rugby Team participated in a Melbourne Storm led tournament in Sunbury on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014. Being identified as a small and developing Rugby College, we were placed in the Development Pool. Our boys gelled as a team, winning three of their four games, and losing a nail biter to St. Monica's College in Epping after a somewhat dubious decision from the match referee.



## AFL

Our Senior AFL team took to the Field in Keilor on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May on a cold, wet and overcast day. With a few injuries to some star players on the morning of the game, and with half the team made up of our Foundation classes, we were a little apprehensive about our chances leading into our first game. With Victoria University pulling out late, we found ourselves up against Copperfield College. Kicking with a strong wind in the first half, we managed to kick 4 goals and we kept Copperfield goalless. Kicking against the wind in the second half, our boys played fantastic football and piled on six goals and again kept Copperfield goalless.

**HARVESTER: 12 8 80 defeated Copperfield 0 6 6**

Our second game against Taylors Lakes was played in good spirits, however, with their bigger bodies and excellent skills, they had a good win against us and ended up winning the division. Congratulations to Taylors Lakes College.

Our boys did the College proud on the day. Led by Captain Charlie Barrett, they performed extremely well, and with half the side playing up an age group, I am excited about our prospects next year.

## BASKETBALL

We have our first basketball match coming up on Friday, 23 May in Altona. Parents are welcome to come along and support the boys.

*Anthony Raffoul*

## WELFARE SUPPORT

Harvester supports a diverse range of students with a myriad of needs and thus provides Welfare support within the school. It is accessible by all students, and the school would like to encourage any student with any concerns they may like to discuss to make contact with our Welfare support Officer Jaqueline Fellows. Her email contact is: [jfellows@harvestercollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jfellows@harvestercollege.vic.edu.au)

## REPAIR SHOP UPDATE

As Kristy Simmons and Megan DeMoel continue to build up the Repair Shop, students can now utilise additional specialised support and assistance in all theory based subject areas.

## SYN FM RADIO EXCURSION REFLECTION

As Foundation Students navigated their way around the SYN FM student youth radio network in Melbourne's CBD they also challenged themselves to produce a radio show. Here's what some of the students had to say:

The best part of the SYN FM excursion was **"when everyone did their segments smoothly!"**  
Aaron, Foundation Literacy

**"The things we spoke about on air was the Australian team for the AFL."** Ricky, Foundation Literacy

**"The best part was planning what we were going to say,"** Jackson, Foundation Literacy

Overall, students demonstrated excellent oral presentation skills as they produced their own segments tackling relevant and topical issues relating to young people.

## CARPENTRY SCALE MODEL BUILDINGS

Foundation Carpentry students have been eagerly working on building scale models of a 2 bedroom bungalow. For most the sub-flooring and wall framing is now complete, and with results that would make any Italian Carpenter proud!

Once the roof frame is complete students will have the opportunity to apply their design skills when cladding and decorating the interior and exterior of their bungalows.

Nick Maxwell





## May

- 5-16 Work Placement
- 27 Mid Year Intake Information Session

## July

- 14 Curriculum Day (Student Free)
- 15 First Day Term 3
- 15 Subject Selection for 2015 Begins

## June

- 6 End of Semester 1 Subjects
- 9 Queens Birthday
- 10 Start of Semester 2 Subjects
- 13 Student Free Day
- 13 Mid Year Intake Orientation day
- 16 First Day of Classes for Mid Year Intake
- 25 Semester 1 Reports Distributed
- 27 End of Term 2

## August

- 4-15 Work Placement
- 5 Continuing Student Information Night
- 12 2015 Information Session



# EXCURSION REFLECTION

The journey to Loddon Prison begun in the early hours of the morning on Thursday March 6th, 2014. When we arrived at the prison I noticed that it was in the middle of nowhere. The expectations I had of the prison were based on previous experiences and television shows such as Prison Break and Criminal Minds. The reality of viewing the prison was that it was more calm than I thought. The prisoner I found most interesting was Bob because he had been in the most and regrets everything and he was pretty serious. About everything he said. The questions I asked Bob included: “why did you do it?”; and “What are you planning on doing when you get out?”. The prisoner I felt least sympathy for was Alex because I felt bad about what he did. And until this day still, he always looks back on it. After witnessing what a real prison is like, I feel like I don’t want to commit a crime because jail is the last place I’d want to be.

If I were to describe each individual prisoner and his appearance I would start with Bob. He is doing 20 years on top and 18 on the bottom for murder. Alex was in for manslaughter with 6 on the top and 3 on the bottom. Dave was in for drug importation and he had 10 on top and 8 on the bottom. And Ryan got 4 years on the bottom and 6 years on the top.

After having visited a prison, I now firmly believe not everyone should go to jail. If I was in the shoes of the guards I would be very aware.

He security at Loddon can be described as medium to low. If I could give some advice to prisoners it would be to not stuff up with the law.

The most important lessons I’ve learned from this excursion is not to do drugs and break the law.

*Senior Fast Track Student, Anonymous*

