Sevenoaks Senior College

Newsletter

AUGUST 2016

Education Minister Visit

Sevenoaks Senior College was delighted to host the Minister for Education, Hon Peter Collier MLC, who visited the school to meet students and staff on Friday 27 May. The Minister convened with the school Principal, Dr Kathleen Partridge and the College Board Chair, Professor Marnie O'Neil, to discuss college affairs and achievements.

The Minister also enjoyed a tour of the college, including meeting students and staff in English, science and maths classes, as well as visiting the Canning Skills Big Picture Academy and the automotive and engineering divisions within the College Trade Training Centre. To complete the Minister's visit, he attended a brief morning tea with the College Guild Members where conversation centred on vital leadership qualities, the Guild's fund raising efforts for Shenton Park Dog Refuge and the Guild members' perception of the college and its young adult ethos.



Overall, Minister Collier's visit to the College was very successful and we thoroughly enjoyed providing him with an insight into the daily workings of the school.

The Trade Training Centre students started 2016 enthusiastically with very strong enrolments in both the Metals and Automotive qualifications. Students have continued to flourish as the year has progressed. Students are enjoying working with the latest equipment within our impressive facilities and workshops. It is pleasing to note that a large percentage of the available places have been filled by the Year 10 group from our feeder schools who attended the Friday sessions in 2015.





We look forward to inspiring more Year 10 students to join the Sevenoaks Trade Training Centre in 2017. We are also proud to report that we have the largest percentage of Aboriginal students ever enrolled at the TTC. The students are currently involved in workplace learning and are enjoying the opportunity to put their newly developed skills into practice.

Komatsu & Cummins Partnership

Sevenoaks Senior College is particularly delighted to announce the industry partnership we have recently established between Komatsu, Cummins International and the Sevenoaks Senior College Trade Training Centre. The possibilities for our students to embark on school based traineeships and ultimately apprenticeships with these successful companies is now available for high performing students. Sevenoaks Senior College is thrilled to be a part of this exciting new partnership and we are looking forward to fostering its further growth and development.

Industry Breakfast

The Sevenoaks Senior College Trade Training Centre hosted another successful Industry Breakfast on the 24th of April to officially announce new initiatives such as the Cummins/Kumatso agreement, and to introduce our existing affiliates to our The occasion provided new partners. a networking opportunity for our own trades-based, industry experienced staff and those who work in the relevant fields. The breakfast showcased the benefits of the solid, positive relationships we share with our industry partners who, together with the Trade Training Centre teachers, work tirelessly to motivate and inspire our students.

Those who attended the breakfast were also grateful to the VET hospitality students who catered for the occasion with an impressive and delicious gourmet spread.

Paying your child's fees and charges

Here are some options to help you make the decision about how to pay your child's fees & charges:

Option 1: Qkr! app

This is our preferred method of making payments to the College. App can be downloaded on your Android or i-phone. Register, find school, register your child and make payment(s).



Option 2: bpoint

https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sevenoakssenior Log on to the above website to make payments for your child.



Alternatively, you can contact the College to make a payment and also register your credit card details to set up regular payments until your child's fees are paid in full. Acceptable credit cards are:





Option 3: You can pay by EFT: Electronic Funds Transfer

BSB: 066 134 Account: 10208973
Account Name: Sevenoaks Senior College
Reference: Please use your child's name

For other options, see College Website: www.Sevenoaks.wa.edu.au

University Open Days:

These open days prove to be an ideal opportunity for parents and students to visit the university campuses, talk to the relevant staff representing various schools of study and gain a meaningful insight into campus life. The open days serve as a very valuable experience that will contribute significantly to the students' preparation for their university applications.

Please refer to the dates, venues and times listed below as a guide or seek advice from Careers Coordinator, Mrs Brenda Earl, for more information.

Sunday 14th August ECU Mount Lawley 10am-3pm

Sunday 14th August UWA 10am-4pm

Sunday 21st August University of Notre Dame 10am-3pm



From the Principal

Dr Kath Partridge

Welcome to term three everyone; it is lovely to see staff and students back for another productive term. Congratulations to the many students who achieved outstanding semester one results. Our recent College Assembly provided the appropriate opportunity to recognise those students awarded Achievement and Endeavour certificates for their semester one studies.

Term three is a ten week block for all students to complete necessary course work and VET units of competency so that students are well placed to gain the academic rewards they are capable of achieving. Before you know it our Year 12 students will be completing their studies and will be preparing for their final examinations. Please seek out support from teachers and Advocates who are only too willing to provide information and help.

On Thursday, July 28, we welcomed the Year 10 students from our two feeder schools, Yule Brook College and Cannington Community College. Students spent the day at Sevenoaks where courses and programs were showcased to help students learn more about the exciting opportunities here at Sevenoaks. Our general courses, Trade Training Centre VET qualifications, additional VET courses were all be presented by the staff who will be teaching the courses in 2017. We are now enrolling for 2017 and have enjoyed meeting some of our new students.

We also have recently conducted a Year 10 Parent Information Evening. This was an opportunity for parents of Year 10 students, who will be coming to Sevenoaks in 2017, to learn more about our College and our programs. It was lovely to see parents at the College to listen to the information and to enjoy a tour of our facilities.

Year 11 and 12 students who have not yet met the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) requirements will have another opportunity to take the various assessments from August 29 until September 2 2016. Students will be notified as to when they need to attend the College library to sit these assessments.

I would like thank parents, business and industry representatives and community members for their ongoing support of our College. Our proactive College Board works closely with the College leadership team to ensure that we are always focused on our goal of delivering a quality education for every child. If you would like to chat with me about an issue please contact the College reception to make an appointment.





Award Winners

High academic achievement and a dedicated work ethic were the focus of a recent college assembly which recognised the impressive efforts of students throughout semester one. The students who attained the highest results in each course were given an Achievement Award, while those in each class who had demonstrated the largest degree of effort and dedication to their studies were acknowledged with an Endeavour Award.

The entire Sevenoaks Senior College community congratulates the worthy recipients of these awards and encourages all students to continue working toward fulfilling their academic potential throughout the remainder of the school year.

NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week, held from the July 3rd to July 9, is a national celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions of Indigenous Australians in various fields.

At Sevenoaks Senior College, NAIDOC Week was acknowledged with a special assembly that commenced with a "Welcome to Country" address delivered by our Aboriginal support teacher, Mrs Kayleen Hayward.



A range of Dreamtime songs, poetry and stories were then shared by a visiting guest speaker, a Noongar, Bardi woman from WAAPA. Following this, students enthusiastically participated in a range of activities such as Aboriginal arts and crafts, food tasting and face painting.

A display in the college foyer and some particularly interesting classroom visits conducted by Mrs Hayward also allowed students to learn more about traditional Aboriginal culture and appreciate its invaluable place in Australian society.



Showcase Day

Showcase Day took place in late July and once again provided an important opportunity for teachers to give visiting Year 10 students a realistic and engaging introduction to courses offered at the college. Showcase Day is considered the first official chance for on-site transition of future students from our main feeder schools, including Cannington Community College and Yule Brook College.

Current Sevenoaks Senior College students eagerly look forward to this chance to welcome and meet with Year 10 students and several of them volunteered to act as tour guides as well as to share their own positive experiences of the school. Visiting Year 10 students participated in practical activities including operating the microscopes in the science laboratories and sporting and dancing lessons. They also enjoyed the experience of the cafe environment during their break time.

As in previous years, Showcase Day assisted future students to make some well-informed choices about exactly what courses and programs they intend to pursue next year and we look forward to helping them achieve their school-related goals.







Curtin University English Conference



The annual English and Literature Conference hosted by the School of Media, Culture and Creative Arts at Curtin University has been running for some 30 years and our Year 12 English ATAR students were fortunate enough to attend the 2016 event in the final week of July.

English students were treated to some highly informative and engaging lectures based on topics integral to their final English WACE Examination, such as Close Analysis and Short Answers, Persuasive and Interpretive Writing and Responding to Visual Texts. The sessions were delivered by a range of highly esteemed academics including published authors and university professors.

Both students and staff alike found the experience a very valuable one in consolidating the content that is already covered in English classes at school as well as offering insight into the examination process that students will face in November as a final culmination of their studies.

Sevenoaks' Got Talent

In early term two, the Student Guild once again coordinated the popular Sevenoaks' Got Talent fundraising event, much to the delight of audience members and the participants themselves.

It is certainly clear that Sevenoaks Senior College has some multi-talented students and their willingness to display their specialised skills was appreciated by all who attended. The acts included varied demonstrations of talents in the areas of dance, singing, visual arts, playing a musical instrument, cooking and even comedy.



The efforts of the Student Guild in organising the Sevenoaks' Got Talent production are also particularly admirable. The college congratulates all of those involved and we are especially pleased to announce that all profits, totalling \$600, were donated to the Shenton Park Dog Home.







Year 11 student Maryel Gilo was recently excited to learn that she is getting closer to achieving her ambition of one day working in the field of photography and graphic design after winning second place in the Canning Arts Awards for the Youth, Photography category. The subject of her submission was based on the concept of outward identity and hidden human emotion, expressed with the use of both a physical female form and written text. The skills that Maryel has developed in her photography classes are strongly evident in her first time submission. We congratulate Maryel on this very impressive achievement.





Book Club

The newly formed Sevenoaks Senior College Book Club met for the first time on Thursday 21 July and the session served to introduce students to the concept of sharing their reading experiences with each other in a relaxed and friendly environment.

The Book Club, open to all students and staff, involves monthly meetings which provide an ideal opportunity to discuss what participants are reading outside of their school studies and to access or offer recommendations. Members are welcome to pursue reading in any areas or styles of personal interest, but they will also be offered several specific recommendations and these have so far included texts such as *Animal Farm* by George Orwell and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak.

Sevenoaks Senior College embraces the philosophy that regular, independent reading at home has the potential to dramatically increase literacy levels as well as fulfil the need for students to engage in a pleasurable, productive activity as part of a balanced lifestyle. Dates of future Book Club meetings throughout term three are Thursday lunchtimes on August 18 and September 13.

Integrated Science

Year 12 Integrated Science students are learning about rocketry and have consolidated their learning through exciting practical exercises involving the construction and launching of different types of rockets. They have made their own bottle rockets and individually designed matchstick rockets. During the activities, students studied the chemistry behind the chemical reactions of the propellant used to move the bottle rockets and were able to explain the forces overcome by Newton's 3rd Law of Motion. These concrete applications of theoretical principles often serve as the highlight of science lessons and students thoroughly enjoyed watching their rockets take to the sky.

Careers Advice

Advice on career options has been a focus throughout term three, as reflected in the display currently exhibited in the college foyer. The visually engaging display clearly identifies the qualifications which can be earned either through the TAFE sector or within a chosen industry. Students can follow the areas of training from Certificate II through to Advanced Diploma or Associate Degree. Careers advice is always available for students seeking

to pursue qualifications in fields such as Aero skills, Animal Care and Management, Automotive Manufacturing, Aviation, Beauty and Hairdressing, Business Services, Community Services, Information and Communications Technology, amongst many other options.

Students are reminded that university applications must be finalised by Friday 23 September and TAFE applications completed by the end of October. Students are urged to see Careers Co-ordinator Mrs Brenda Earl before they sign any contracts with private RTO providers offering certificates.

Reducing exam stress, improving study habits, thanks to Curtin University

Our College believes in supporting students and families on both sides of the school fence, particularly during stressful times such as examination periods. That's why from 3pm to 10pm every day the best expert tutors are available online, ready for tricky or frustrating homework and study questions.

'YourTutor' is the College's after-hours, online study support service provided generously to our students by Curtin University. Students can log in as soon as they get stuck or need help during study time and a live, friendly expert will take them through their problem step by step, using typed chat and an interactive whiteboard. Students must apply their own critical thinking, expertly guided by the professional teachers and tutors online.

YourTutor helps students and their families with after-hours study for increased confidence, progress towards further education and learning improvement.



Students can receive their activation code from the College Library.

Unlock your child's account now at yourtutor.com.au/start

Calendar of Events - Term 4 - 2016

| Week | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------|--|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Oct | Start of Term 4 for students and staff | 11 | Elevate Education (Yr11) WACE Exam Venue Visit Yr 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 2 | 17 | 18 | WACE Exam Venue Visit (Yr 12) | Presentation Ceremony Rehearsal | Last Day Yr 12 Breakfast Presentation Ceremony Rehearsal |
| 3 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | Yr 12 English ATAR Revision Seminar (9-11:30) |
| Nov 4 | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS Staff Meeting | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS Presentation Ceremony Sat 5th Nov (Crown) |
| 5 | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS | WACE EXAMS |
| 6 | WACE EXAMS Year 11 Exams | WACE EXAMS Year 11 Exams | WACE EXAMS Year 11 Exams | WACE EXAMS Year 11 Exams | WACE EXAMS Year 11 Exams Last Day for Year 11 students |
| 7 | Staff Development Day | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Dec 8 | 28 | 29 | Staff Meeting | 1 | 2 |
| 9 | Year 10 Orientation | Year 10 Orientation | 7 | 8 | National Opinion Surveys close |
| 10 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | School Development Day |

WACE Exams

WACE Exams will take place from the last day of October and continue throughout most of November

Exams commence: Monday October 31st Exams conclude: Friday 18th November

School Year Start 2017

The first day back for students in 2017 will be 1st February