Important Dates

9 June - Queens Birthday
10 June - Student Free Day
17 June - School Council
25 June - Reports Mailed
27 June - Last Day Term 2
14 July - Term 3 Commences
17 July - 4-Way Conferences
22 July - School Council
30 July - Open Day/Info Night

**Mid-year Reports & Four Way Conferences**

Teachers are now starting to write mid-year reports for all students. These reports will be more detailed, indicating whether students are up-to-date, what outcomes have been achieved and include teachers’ comments on student progress. Students need to ensure they get all their required work submitted over the next week.

**Parent-teacher-student 4-way conferences will occur on the first Thursday of Term 3 (17th July) from 1.30 – 7.30pm.** The 4-way conferences are a compulsory part of the students’ program and are assessed as part of their Literacy speaking and self-expression outcome. We ask parents and students to book a time for the day so the students can get credit for their presentation.

**Open Day/Information Night on Wednesday 30th July for 2015 Enrolments**

We are now taking expressions of interest for our 2015 enrolments. Interested applicants can download an expression of interest form from our web site or contact the college on 9464 0122. Open Day Tours operate on the same day as our Information Evening on Wednesday 30th July.

**Improvements to Buildings & Grounds**

We are embarking on projects to improve the buildings and grounds – new plastering over dark brick walls, improvements to the front entrance, new carpet, new pin-boards, new furniture etc. We have also employed a part-time grounds and maintenance officer.

**Positive Education**

As noted at the 3way conferences we are increasing our focus on our Positive Education Program, zeroing in on the 7 core high predictive strengths of ZEST, GRIT, SELF-CONTROL, OPTIMISM, GRATITUDE, SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE and CURIOSITY. The program will be a whole school focus across all subjects with the core instruction and learning activities delivered through some dedicated time on project days, connect groups and Monday whole school assemblies.
Principal’s Report Continued

Our main focus for this term is the Character Strength of GRIT which is a combination for perseverance, persistence, determination and resilience. GRIT is all about finishing what you start and not giving up when the going gets tough.

Daryl Nayler Resignation

Unfortunately teacher and Student Wellbeing Coordinator Daryl Nayler has resigned and moved to Queensland to help care for his mother who is in the final stages of terminal cancer. Daryl has been a great contributor in his 18 months with the college.

In the short term Russell Willis who is a DEED youth worker/counsellor and already works with referred students here on a Monday morning will extend his time adding a full day on Thursday and take over the Student Welfare Coordinator role. James Rosewarne who has worked at PLVC as a relief teacher will cover his VCAL teaching and Melanie Brooks will take over his VET Community Services course.

Fundraising for the ANZACS

Daniel Anagnostopoulos and I decided to raise money for Anzac day. We had just finished a project recognising the important role of the Australian Defence Force and had listened to speakers from the RSL. We sold Anzac badges at our school, the School of Autism and in the Community garden. We raised $128.

Terry Romanos

Spirit of ANZAC

ANZAC Day is a day of remembrance. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.

Year 11 students undertook an education project in Term 1 to understand ANZAC spirit. This required them to undertake a number of classroom activities and embark on a comprehensive examination of the meaning of ANZAC Day in Australian contemporary culture. As part of assessment, students developed multi-media presentations, wrote letters of respect to the Australian Defence Force and hosted an ANZAC commemoration morning tea for representatives from the Epping RSL, Victoria Police, City of Whittlesea Mayor, Cr Mary Lalios and Warrant Officer Class 2 Gerry Foran (Army) and Sergeant Julie Hill (Air Force) from the Australian Defence Force.

A hand painted “message stick” tube was created by our school art elective group for student letters to be presented to the Australian Defence Force to be laid at the ANZAC service. Students decorated our library, foyer and main walkway with Australian flags, poppies and posters they created. Students prepared and served morning tea for our visitors which included lamingtons, ANZAC biscuits, pies, sausage rolls, quiche, muffins, tea and coffee. Speeches were given by our Principal and Mayor to our students.

The learning for our students was to understand our heritage, our identity and the sacrifices made by the brave young men who landed at Gallipoli and those who followed their example in later conflicts.

We Will Remember Them

Lest We Forget
WHO’S WHO IN THE ZOO!

Year 12 students worked with Miranda Wood, a horticulturist at the Melbourne Zoo, to create a turtle enclosure that can be viewed from the front foyer at the College. Students designed the enclosure that includes a rainforest garden and a 3 pond water feature.

Whilst one group was busy in the garden, another was hard at work in the art room creating a visually stunning mural that will be mounted within the enclosure. Like any project there were challenges that the students needed to overcome. Whilst spreading soil with a rake, a student accidentally pierced a water pipe that immediately added an unexpected 8 foot high water fountain. After a quick visit from our regular plumber Ross, the gardening crew were back on track.

The artwork design is significant as it is a real tribute to Daryl Nayler who left the school mid-project for personal reasons. Daryl has engaged students in aboriginal artwork and shared his craft allowing students to express themselves whilst learning about aboriginal culture and developing their creativity. The students took great pride in finishing the artwork without his direction striving to do their best as a tribute to him.

In addition to the turtle enclosure, students continue to manage the bird aviary and we have added a grumpy blue-tongued lizard to our Numeracy Room. On the horizon we hope to add a large marine tank to the foyer that will be the home for a couple of stingrays and maybe even a small shark or two and also entertaining the idea of a resident pet snake.

The animals have shown to have had a significant effect on our students who care for, and show compassion towards the various creatures. The students also gather information and learn about the animals needs, and also problem solve as part of the maintenance process.
Alex Parker took time out of her busy schedule to speak to Peter Lalor Vocational College students. Alex is a successful children’s photographer for magazines and brands such as Country Road. Not a bad achievement for a 24 year old! This is even more remarkable when you consider that Alex suffers from cystic fibrosis (a lung condition) and has a current life expectancy of 37 years old without access to the drug Kalydeco.

Alex has been prominent in the media campaigning for this drug to be accessible in Australia and subsidised by the Government. She has even sat with Julia Gillard when she was Prime Minister to discuss the issue.

Alex spoke candidly about her experiences and her determination to be successful. She was an inspiration to our students who identified with her, her story and her circumstances. Alex demonstrates GRIT every day... do you???

Abdy Aden spoke passionately about being grateful for the things he has, and what he has achieved. Fleeing from Somalia when the country became a war zone, he left his family running for his life. Making his journey to Australia he went to 7 different countries in an attempt to remove himself from danger.

Abdy spoke of the terror of seeing those around him shot, holding on to a train for 9 hours, and walking for more than 3 months to get across a border. He also told of the resilience he demonstrated when he left his family behind, unaware of whether they were even alive.

After making it to the shores of Australia, he is proud to say he has obtained several qualifications, is a successful youth worker, has been featured in a documentary, is an author, and soon to have a feature film made of his experiences.

Abdy certainly challenges the thoughts generated by the term ‘refugee’ by putting a face and a story behind this word.

Needless to say Abdy is the true definition of GRIT... and a true inspiration to anyone who hears his story. Be thankful everyday for what you have and where you were born.
**SPORT**

**Whittlesea Division Athletics May 2014**

The athletics team travelled to the Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium on Wednesday 7th May 2014 for the Whittlesea Division Senior Athletics Competition. This was the first time a team had represented PLVC in athletics and the team did not disappoint with many outstanding results. Some of these are recorded below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Mundy</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Girls 17</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
<td>13.52m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Mundy</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Girls 17</td>
<td>Shot Put</td>
<td>6.17m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Motta</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Boys 16</td>
<td>Discus</td>
<td>21.07m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Motta</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Boys 16</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
<td>17.95m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Motta</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Boys 16</td>
<td>Shot Put</td>
<td>8.01m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Petkopoulos</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Boys 16</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
<td>29.47m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Petkopoulos</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Boys 17</td>
<td>Shot Put</td>
<td>9.45m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Petkopoulos</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Boys 17</td>
<td>Discus</td>
<td>24.42m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Petkopoulos</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Boys 17</td>
<td>1500m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Petkopoulos</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Boys 20</td>
<td>Long Jump</td>
<td>4.99m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Petkopoulos</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Boys 20</td>
<td>Triple Jump</td>
<td>9.76m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Petkopoulos</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Boys 20</td>
<td>Javelin</td>
<td>31.24m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Petkopoulos</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Boys 20</td>
<td>100m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many thanks to PLVC Athletics Captain Anthony Motta, who organised the team and I would also like to thank the team for the wonderful way in which they conducted themselves on the day.

**Inter-school Football**

Twenty-two brave lads ventured out recently to do battle with our neighbouring secondary colleges. And they did compete bravely in a round-robin of three matches against Whittlesea, Mill Park and Lalor Secondary Colleges. The other schools are all large colleges with 1,000 plus students proved too strong, where Peter Lalor has only about 65 male students.

However, we were competitive scoring well and defending well in all games. I was extremely proud of the GRIT displayed by every student continuing to fight out each match, never giving up, even when up against stronger teams. Congratulations to all players and thanks to Taylor Hill and Joanna Liatsas for their work as assistant coaches and runners.

Players who performed consistently well across all games were James Deriu (Captain), Harry Hicks, Nathan Petkopoulos, Travis Grinham, and Jamie Ozimek. Other flashes of good play came from Marco Callerame, Daniel Anagnostopoulos, Jake Micevski, Brayden Child, Terry Romanos, Daniel Macca, Brad Biagioni, Justin Marmo and Vlad Ivanovski. Special mention to Jesse Simmons who insisted on playing despite a serious foot injury and still valiantly made some excellent contributions to the team effort. While not named all players battled hard on the day.

**Netball**

The PLVC netball team competed in the Senior Girls Netball Tournament at Mill Park Basketball Stadium in May. The team consisted of Rechelle McSwain, Emma Bannan, Ashlee Ozimek, Emily Kendall, Deanna Greenhill and Rebecca Mundy. The girls played magnificently winning a total of 4 out of 7 matches. They displayed grit and enthusiasm, and represented PLVC with pride.
The Lakes Visit

Potential students from The Lakes came to Peter Lalor Vocational College for the day to experience “A Day in the Life of Peter Lalor Vocational College”. There were 18 students who were able to see what we do at the college and experience VCAL and VET classes for the first time. Our students made them a freshly baked morning tea of muffins from our commercial kitchen.

Come and check us out!

Our success is growing and we anticipate record numbers again next year. Please continue to spread positive words about the college and consider passing the below advertising flyer to a friend or family member. Or come yourself and see why we are becoming a VCAL & VET school of choice.

Spread the word about Peter Lalor Vocational College. Pass on our Open Day & Information Night flyer to a friend that might be interested in checking us out...