Principal’s Report

Commencing Term 2 seems to always leave teachers, students and parents wondering where Term 1 went. It was an exciting term with our new students settling into the Peter Lalor culture and existing students stepping up to the next level of maturity and step in their education. Students have been exposed to a variety of applied learning opportunities both within and outside the college. Some of the most notable excursions were the annual College Picnic, the SCOPE program, The National Gallery, Marngoneet Prison, The Big Issue and Wheel Talk to name a few.

Applied Learning

Applied Learning is a method of education that focuses on hands-on learning. Malyn-Smith (1997) defines applied learning as “experiential, hands-on, active learning which integrates deep academic and rigorous technical content in problems and projects which connect school to work and life.”

Our programs at Peter Lalor have been designed to have a balance of active learning whilst also embedding academic and technical concepts in which students can apply in the real world beyond school.

Anti-violence / Anti-Bullying

As of this coming Monday, all students will be involved in undertaking a program called “Be the Hero”. This program has been designed and will be delivered by Paul Zappa who is very influential in the area of anti-violence and anti-bullying. Students will be taught to identify behaviours that are acceptable and not acceptable as well as strategies to identify and manage situations that may arise. The program specifically looks at respectful relationships. Paul is a very experienced educator on this topic and is an influential campaigner in the fight against domestic violence.

Melbourne Storm Partnership

Peter Robinson, a former player from the Melbourne Storm, has created a valuable partnership with the college and the club. Peter’s primary connection is with our indigenous students. He is committed to creating opportunities for these students and has been valuable in engaging our students. Recently Peter generously offered our students, both indigenous and non-indigenous students to attend a resilience program that was also attended by current and past players of the game.

Parent Reports

Parents are encouraged to continue communication with their son’s/daughter’s class teacher following reports and 3-Way Conferences. Students’ outcomes are better when parents take an active role in their child’s education. Should you require an update or have information to pass on regarding an issue that may be impacting on progress please contact the school on 9464 0122. Additionally, if there is a need to reschedule a missed 3-Way Conference please contact accordingly.

Rod Sheehan
Principal

Dates to Remember

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 - 10 June - Foundation Leadership Camp</td>
<td>25 July - Info Night 7-8</td>
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<td>13 June - Queen’s Birthday</td>
<td>5 Sept - Info Night 7-8</td>
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<td>24 June - Last day Term 2</td>
<td>16 Sept - Last day Term 3</td>
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<td>11 July - Term 3 Starts</td>
<td>3 Oct - Term 4 Starts</td>
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<td>25 July - Open Day 10-12 &amp; 2-4</td>
<td>10 Oct - VET Info Night 6.15</td>
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<td>- PLVC Info Night 7.30</td>
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Foundation Group
Scope Young Ambassadors Program

Last term Foundation VCAL students participated in the Scope Young Ambassadors program. The program focused on providing learning opportunities for students to learn about diversity in the community. Students developed a range of skills to:

- Understand disability and diversity in the community
- Successfully communicate with people who have a disability
- Be aware of some of the challenges faced by people with a disability
- Encourage students to see the person, not the disability

Students participated in a series of workshops and met disability advocate, Lyn Rowe who spoke with students about living with a disability.

Students also visited Keon Park Industries and worked alongside people with a disability and practiced newly developed skills in a supported working environment.

Belinda Batty
Foundation VCAL Teacher
Kaitlyn Bourke - Work Experience at Police Station
The Intermediate group have been working on their major presentation piece: Discovery Box. Students have been researching a person involved in Australia’s military history. They will compile a box of information about this person and create a display to reveal their knowledge. Parents and friends are welcome to attend the presentation day on Tuesday 3 May from 11am.

Students have participated in the Employment Opportunity Fair at Plenty Ranges on Thursday 17 March. They had a chance to explore various industries and speak with employers from a range of areas. TAFE Institutes also attended so students could ask questions and identify other pathways they could take.

Students completed the Term 1 theme of “War and Peace” with a visit to the Melbourne Shrine. They enjoyed an hour long tour which included a visit to the Crypt and participating in the Ray of Light ceremony. Students are to be commended on the respectful way they conducted themselves and represented Peter Lalor Vocational College.

**Catch Up Classes**

On Thursday afternoons, from 1.30 until 2.30pm, Intermediate teachers will be running catch up classes. This is an opportunity to receive extra help. If students are behind in their class work their teacher will let them know. Students are expected to attend these extra classes until they are up-to-date with their work.

**Excursions**

Excursion attendance is a compulsory component of the VCAL learning program. Please read the following reminders about the PLVC excursion policy:

- Consent forms must be received 24 hours in advance of the excursion. Hand written notes will not be accepted for reasons relating to duty of care.
- Students who attend school late will remain supervised at the school with alternative tasks. Students must show initiative and responsibility, self-management and the ability to problem solve – all of which are transferrable skills to the workplace.
- Students must be dressed in appropriate school accepted attire – no singlets, thongs or tracksuits.
- Permission notes are to be signed in blue or black pen.

**Intermediate Team**
Senior Group

During Term One the Senior students completed a Unit on ‘Crime and Punishment’. Our investigations saw students visiting The Old Melbourne Gaol, the Police Museum and Marngoneet Prison. The excursions provided rich learning experiences, as students were given the chance to role play, investigate and learn in an applied and hands-on way. The activities done within the classroom before and after each excursion gave students the opportunity to extend their learning by preparing them for their visit and analysing their experiences afterwards. The crime files activity provided a lot of debate within the classroom. Students were asked to identify a crime within the newspaper and had to dissect the case in terms of evidence, outcomes and punishments given. They needed to formulate an opinion as to whether the punishment fitted the crime. As you can imagine, some of the discussions were lively.

This term, two key projects will be undertaken. The first is a teacher led one, ‘Planes, Trains and Automobiles’ and will look at the topic of travel and transport in numerous ways, including planning dream holidays and designing their ideal car. The second project is a student led one, where students will work in groups to design and implement their own complex community project. Although only just commenced, there are already some innovative and exciting ideas being developed. This project will satisfy their Personal Development Skills Unit 2 outcomes.

The 3 way conferences went well last week, with most students presenting to their parent/carer. Students are developing their goals and plans for the future and working their way towards achieving them.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding the Senior program or curriculum, please feel free to contact Gabby Panozzo on panozzo.gabrielle.f@edumail.vic.gov.au

Gabby Panozzo
Senior Coordinator
Excursion to the Old Melbourne Gaol
Police Museum Excursion

Vampires beware....

Confeized during a 2004 Melbourne drug raid, this 19th century vampire slayer kit comes complete with wooden stake, antique iron pail, silver bullets and empty bottle for holy water for any emergency involving the undead.

Whilst bloodsucking demons have appeared in stories throughout the ages, vampires, as we know them today, were popularised in mainland Europe from the early 19th century. During this period, fear of vampires occasionally led to mass hysteria, making slayer kits such as this one ordinarily popular.

The translation of the ‘magical’ Greco-Roman inscription on the lid is unknown. However, it has been dated to around 500BCE.

Horses to Horsepower

1956 Ariel Square Four Mark II motorcycle

At 1025cc, the Ariel was the most powerful motorcycle of its era. Unfortunately the engine was prone to breaking down, which could cause serious problems. This was overcome by the Ariel's lightweight, narrow frame, which made the bike easier to handle.

1950s engineering of an era where there was little to no real communication. In the event of an emergency the rider would have no other way to contact the police.

*Operating in 1950s, slide projections had been frequently replaced to liven the show.

Please do not touch the exhibits.

The area is under constant video surveillance.