Staff Turkey Trip

Year 10 Humanities students had the opportunity to meet some of these soldiers. Three members from the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia visited our school in August. The presentation was very informative as well as entertaining for students. Rod, Lynden and Peter were able to show students the human face of war through descriptions of their experiences in Vietnam. After the presentation, students were encouraged to ask questions and look at the props which were on display around the room. These displays were especially significant as each item belonged to one of the three presenters.

Visit By Vietnam Veterans

On the term 2 school holidays, eight of our staff members took part in an 18 day Turkey trip. They travelled 3 continents, 10 cities in two and a half weeks. It’s breathtaking views, unforgettable memories, delicious taste of Turkish food and warmth of good friendship are what they cherish from this trip the most.

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Deputy Principal’s Message

We have just completed a very active and dynamic term three. Term 3 reports (Yr 7-12) have been mailed out with this newsletter. Parents will get the opportunity to discuss their daughter’s academic and behavioral progress at the Parent Teacher Interviews which will be conducted on Tuesday, 12 October (Yr 7-9) and Thursday, 14 October, between the hours of 4.00-7.00pm. It is, however, absolutely essential for students to make appointments with their teachers by using the Parent-Teacher Appointment slip, which has been included with the reports.

The VCE end-of-year exams are fast approaching. I would like to encourage parents and guardians to support, encourage and motivate their daughters during the exams and make it easier for them to organize their study time. Our prayers are with them.

I would also like to welcome some of our new staff members:
Ms Nermin Celik, Science Lab Technician, Ms Eva Curseri, Art teacher
Ms Yasmin Maher, Art teacher, Ms Hulya Kul, Maths teacher
Mr Mahkdoom Bhatti, CRT/Maths

I hope all of our students are having ample time to relax and recuperate throughout the vacation period. I hope that you all have a safe and productive school holiday. Please enjoy reading this issue of our newsletter.

Ms. Nazan POLAT

Dialogue Visit to Penleigh Grammar

A selected group of Year 10 students visited ‘Penleigh Essendon Grammar’ as a part of the interfaith Dialogue Club. It was a very productive two hours of fun for the students. Students had a chance to meet girls their own age from the Christian faith group. The Penleigh Essendon Grammar students were also a voluntary group which was a part of the social justice club.

Ms Sureyya CICEK
“On the 27th of August, Australian veterans from the Vietnam War visited our school. During their visit, they described the Australian soldiers’ role in the Vietnam War. It was a very informative session, as we learned new things and our perception of war changed. We learnt about conditions during the war from men who had experienced it: the hardship, the death, the terror and the folly of it all. By the end of the session, we were all very grateful to Rod, Peter and Lynden for taking the time to explain to us an important part of our history.”

Hilalnur Kuyruk

“When the veterans visited our school, I learnt many things about the Vietnam war. I learnt how long they were trained before they actually fought in Vietnam. I found it very interesting to learn about the Vietcong’s traps along the Ho Chi Min trail. I found it interesting to learn about the underground tunnels. I liked how they gave their own point of view on the hardship of training, the everyday conditions in Vietnam and how they were able to choose what job they wanted in the army.”

Hayrunissa Balcilar

“I liked the fact that they showed us a video about the war. I loved the items they put on display. I found the presentation interesting as it reinforced what I had learned in class.”

Sabrin Shiday

“… The presentation which was conducted by Lynden, Peter, and Rod was not only educational but also entertaining. The clothing, weaponry and other devices used in the Vietnam war by the veterans were fascinating, as we have never seen such things in real life. The presentation helped us visualize the effect war had on people—whether it be the western armies or the everyday citizens of Vietnam. We also learnt that the war in Vietnam did not go too well as the western powers did not accomplish their ultimate goal of stopping the spread of communism to South Vietnam.”

Ramla Hersi and Muna Urashe

“I thought it was an awesome experience. I gained so much wisdom and knowledge in such a tremendously exciting session. My favourite part was that about the Vietnam booby traps. As I was shown the traps, I could feel the painful pangs of thorns piercing my skin. Sitting there and listening to the interesting war-time stories, I barely noticed the time fly by.”

Meena Amiry
This term, our year 9 students were selected to participate, in a school dialogue excursion; an interfaith visit. This gave us, and the hosting school, the opportunity to learn and appreciate the multi faiths; the Catholic and Islamic belief system.

After a 45 minute drive, we were all welcomed by the year 9 girls from ‘The Star of the Sea College’, a Catholic school located in Gardenvale- Brighton. Many activities and tours were held during the day. Most of the girls found it fascinating; the building and the environment was previously an old hospital for the World War 1 soldiers. At the time, a retired aged care village was established across the campus, for those who served in the world war. It was when the state government loaned the building out to ‘The Star of the Sea College’, that the College’s history began. Although it is a high school, there are many artefacts and remains of buildings dating all the way back to World War 1.

A visit to the beach to have lunch ended our day. This was a time of experience and joy for the year 9 girls. We all thank Miss Cicek for organising a day for the year 9 students to feel confident and share our thoughts with other non-Muslims across Melbourne. Also a special thank you to all the girls who participated in the excursion. Learning and appreciating different religions isn’t difficult at all. What we have to remember is no matter what religious faith a person comes from, that we shouldn’t judge them for their title; it’s who they are that matters.

Kubra Gunes, 9P

Student Services

This term has been extremely productive where the main two focus areas have been ‘Cyberbullying’ for Year 7s to 10s, and ‘Substance Awareness’ for the senior students’. We were fortunate enough to have the pleasure of Senior-Constable Sahin Sahinkaya and Senior-Constable Ali Gurdag from the Multicultural Unit at the Broadmeadows Police Station, attend our College to present educational seminars to our students’. The seminars were conducted in an extremely informative and professional manner - powerful enough to impact all the students’, even myself. The photo below, was taken immediately after Seminar on Cyberbullying for the Year 10 students’. I had amazing feedback from the girls who stated they enjoyed the session and found it enlightening. I also feel the impact of knowledge attained by the students will facilitate them to develop into exemplary students both within the school environment and beyond into the community.

Ms Gul OZLUK
Year 12 biology students visited the University of Melbourne on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} of August. They worked on unit 4 activities and investigated into copper tolerance in bacteria. They have also carried out a practical activity to investigate Mendelian patterns of inheritance in Drosophila melanogaster. These activities helped them to review the basic concepts of Mendelian genetics.

Their visit consisted of two main experiments:
• Analyzing genetic crosses
• DNA gel electrophoresis and analysis of the data

The first experiment guided students through the analyses for a number of genetic crosses. In each case, the modes of inheritance for the genes involved was unknown to them.

In the second experiment, they analyzed and interpreted the data from electrophoresis. These activities enhanced students ability to solve genetics problems in their daily life or on exams and also promoted laboratory skills.

\textit{Dr Arshad Mahmood}
Water Testing at Ecolinc

On Tuesday, 3rd of August, the year 11 Chemistry students attended an excursion to Ecolinc Science and Technology Innovations Centre in Bacchus Marsh.

As part of unit 2, they were required to investigate the water quality of six water samples collected from various water sources around the Ecolinc wetlands. The girls had the opportunity to use sophisticated laboratory equipment to assist them with their analysis. Some equipment the girls used was the Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (AAS), colorimeter, pH meter and electronic temperature probe.

Throughout the session, students worked collaboratively to collect and record their data. They then analysed and interpreted their results to finally decide which water sample was the cleanest and the factors involved in maintaining its quality.

All in all, students enjoyed themselves and gained valuable experience that will also benefit them next year in year 12 Chemistry. Great work girls!

Ms Menekse POLAT

Year 10’s and Gene Technology

Have you ever wondered how scientists work with tiny molecules that they cannot see? Year 10 science students were provided with opportunity to sort and measure DNA strands by running their own gel electrophoresis experiments at Isik College. Staff from CSIRO Education visited our school and presented an interactive science program on “Gene Technology”. The implementation of gene technology has been a stimulating and creative experience for the students. These technologies allowed us to separate particles of different size and weight. DNA was injected into a porous agarose gel, which separated DNA according to fragment size. The gel tank allowed a current to flow through the gel to move the DNA fragments. Centrifuge machines were used to spin the microfuge tubes and separated the contents of these tubes containing DNA. Students learned correct pipetting technique using calibrated micropipettes. Students were engaged in the content as it was relevant and current. Overall, it was a fantastic session and excellent hands on activities incursion.

Dr Arshad Mahmood
As part of our studies in Unit 3 Chemistry, the year 12 student’s visited Latrobe University on 3rd May, they worked in small groups to synthesize crystals of the common analgesic aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) from salicylic acid and acetic anhydride, they then purified the product using the re-crystallisation method and measured its melting point.

The students were shown how modern instruments could be used to assess the purity and identity of the aspirin crystals that they synthesized. The infrared, nuclear magnetic resonance and mass spectra of this compound was measured and discussed.

Overall it was a productive day out. Whilst at the University, we were pleasantly surprised to see some of our graduates, who genuinely appeared to have been happy to see us. These students that we saw were some of the same students that went to Latrobe University, over the years to do the same task, but now Latrobe is their new home. This visit was to support Outcome 2 of the VCE Chemistry Study Design.

**Ms Selda Mehmet**
Staff Turkey Trip

Our staff Turkey trip in June/July was a once in a lifetime journey to some of the best places in the world. A historically rich, exquisite land, in between Europe and Asia: Turkey. It's breath taking views, unforgettable memories, delicious taste of Turkish food and warmth of good friendship are what we cherish from this trip. Travelling three continents, 10 cities in 18 days! It was just a little less active than an amazing race but worth every minute (and sore muscle strand) of it. Our itinerary started from Istanbul, One of the biggest cities in the world with its population nearing 15 million people. We spent the first few days with great excitement. Istanbul is my hometown, place where I was born, place that I spent my childhood and youth years. Exploring Istanbul from a tourist's perspective was a mesmerizing experience that I can never get enough of. The best part of it all, was sharing those moments with my colleagues.

Later on, we visited Canakkale and paid our tributes to Anzac Cove. The next day, we headed towards Ephesus via Izmir (third largest city of Turkey). After a long day of historical exploration in Ephesus we arrived at Kusadasi, small coastal town near Izmir and spent the night there. The next day, we went to Pamukkale to see the world famous white travertine and hot springs. We arrived at Antalya, one of the most famous holiday destinations in the Mediterranean. Our next stop was the inner Anatolian city of Konya, the hometown of Rumi before we moved to Capadoccia in Nevsehir. After two unforgettable days in Capadoccia, we headed back to Istanbul via the capital city of Turkey Ankara where we met our Coordinating Principal Mr Tuncay Terzi and visited a sister school. Our last stop was Sile, a small coastal town in the Black Sea region. Our last days at Turkey were spent in retail therapy. All in all, our Turkey trip was definitely addictive.

Ms Esra Dogan

“Having the opportunity to go to Turkey was a once in a lifetime experience, as I never expected to visit such a historic and diverse country. Istanbul was the city we arrived in and the city I will never forget with its beautiful mosques, museums, castles, culture, food and history. Istanbul resembled nothing I have seen before, and I loved the craziness of the traffic, the people on the street that would harass you to come in to their shop and the night life. Visiting so many cities has made me appreciate the experience I had …”

Ms Jacqueline Clemons, PE teacher
On the 22nd of April, our SRC Representatives went to the Anzac commemoration service at the Shrine of Remembrance. Our school’s history students came as well. This was an event that all of us had been waiting for.

When we arrived at the Shrine, we saw many schools, primary and secondary students, all gathered to remember the Anzacs. As soon as we got there we unpacked and started handing out the 4,000 rosemary sprigs (which we assembled) to the people who attended the ceremony. It was really funny when many people asked us if it was for free, even though it said it was free on the box.

During this time I got to talk to other students and ask about their views on Anzac day. It was quite surprising; many students had different views. Some of the students said that they were happy that both the Anzacs and Turkish Mehmetciks were remembered. Some students explained their past family history, how their grandparents went to war at a very young age. It was great hearing their stories. Knowing that the diggers were very young and had sacrificed their lives for us, made me feel extremely thankful.

There were students from nearly every school. I was one of the four students that were holding the ‘Legacy’ banner. While I was on the steps of the Shrine, the ceremony was taking place. Excerpts of the letters written by the young Anzac soldiers made me very emotional. Seeing the love for their country was another story. We had 1 minute of silence remembering... it was then, that the Anzac spirit really hit me. Soldiers running; for not their lives but for their country. The sound of bombs, bullets flying everywhere, men screaming and crying, blood splattering everywhere.

Wreath layers laid their wreaths... in turn, in front of the remembrance flames. A very sad and melancholic note was played; this was the part that made me cry. Every note coming out of the pipe told me something different.

As I was holding the banner I felt very proud attending such a place. I was extremely happy that such an important event is remembered by so many young Australians. I hope the future generations will remember this day just like we did. I have learnt so many things from this commemoration. I hope other students will have a chance to go and feel the spirit of Anzac Day. I will cherish this experience for the rest of my life and will definitely be a story I can tell others.

Beyza Dilcan, 9P
SRC Representative

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

Beyza Dilcan, 9P
“I have learnt so many things from attending this service. I hope other students will have a chance to go and feel the spirit of Anzac Day. I will cherish this experience for the rest of my life and will definitely be a story I can tell others.”
This year we have been very fortunate to be able to partake in RMIT university’s SNAP program. This will enable our year 12 students to have a higher chance of getting a placement at university. RMIT offers excellent courses; giving students the opportunity to apply through the SNAP program is a privilege.

We are still continuing with the Victorian University PPP program. Again this gives students extra support and a higher chance of a university placement.

I have been busy assisting our year 12 VCE students to complete their university course selections. It is a vital time of their school life and future studies. They have a chance to change their preferences when they receive their ATAR scores. I will be here in December to help and guide them through this.

Several year 10 students have participated in our work experience program. They have had the opportunity to work in workplaces of interested and enjoyed their experience. I would like to encourage students in future years to do work experience, as they will benefit from it.

**Career Paths in Engineering**

Last term, we had engineers coming to the school to talk about jobs in the engineering field. We had two guest speakers, a Civil Engineer and a Mechanical Engineer. They talked about the different engineering jobs available and what they entailed.

These speakers were sent out from the Engineers Association of Victoria. Students enjoyed the talk and asked lots of questions. This opened up their options of various careers that they can get into in their future years.

*Ms Ilmiya Asanova*

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**Screen Actors Studio**

Year 9&10 multimedia students were utterly excited to visit Screen Actors studio in Geelong.

This excursion aimed to introduce unique style of acting and the basic elements of emotional realism and give students the opportunity to work on a TV set.

Students participated in a short improvisation exercise that explores conflict, intention and emotional realism in drama. Students shot their earlier prepared scenes in multi-camera studio and made a student DVD. Students enjoyed the studio tour and had loads of fun during the workshop.

*Ms Zuleyha Aykan*
Term 4 will be a critical time for year 10s, 11s and 12s. Year 10 students will be finalizing their subject selections for year 2011. Year 11 students will be sitting for VCE exams for one or two of their VCE subjects including LOTE, Further Maths, Literature and History Revolutions. In addition, year 10s and 11s will have their semester 2 exams in week 8 and they will officially commence year 11 and 12 in week 9 & 10.

Our year 12 students will have normal classes and scheduled trial exams in the conference room in the first 3 weeks of the term. It is therefore, pivotal that they attend school. Acknowledgement Day will take place on Friday the 22nd of October where we will farewell our year 12 students at a school assembly and acknowledge their achievements.

Acknowledgement Day will soon be followed by the Year 12 Graduation Night on Thursday, 18th of November.

All year 11 and 12 students have been given their end of year exam timetable slips.

The VCE exams dates are as follows:

- LOTE Oral: 14th October
- LOTE Written: 19th October
- ENGLISH/ESL: 28th October
- BIOLOGY: 29th October
- FURTHER MATHEMATICS – 1: 1st November
- FURTHER MATHEMATICS – 2: 3rd November
- PSYCHOLOGY, LITERATURE: 4th November
- MATHEMATICAL METHODS CAS – 1: 5th November
- MATHEMATICAL METHODS CAS – 2: 8th November
- VISUAL COMMUNICATION & DESIGN: 9th November
- PHYSICS, LEGAL STUDIES: 10th November
- CHEMISTRY, HISTORY REVOLUTIONS: 11th November

I wish all of our VCE students a productive and fruitful term.

Mr Alper CIFTCI.
My Experience at the Turkish Olympiad

After many countless vocal practices and linguistic lessons, I achieved, the out of the many narrow chances, of going through to the international finals of the 8th International Turkish Olympiads. My experience of singing 'Çok Uzaklarda' shall never be forgotten. The Turkish Olympiad is a talent competition based on Turkish as a Second Language (TSL). I participated in the Turkish singing competition. Participants were placed through a series of stages before the finals held in Istanbul, Turkey. Throughout this process, I have learnt a lot about perseverance, patience, and self-confidence. I taught myself to believe in what I am capable of doing and leave the rest to what I have been taught by my fellow instructors and peers. I applied these principles performance after performance.

The amazing two weeks trip to Turkey has left me with many unforgettable moments. From the moment we landed in Turkey, I began to realize that this was just the beginning. Every day was full of scheduled activities that made every minute important. The organization of this annual event was indeed extremely grand and well-known throughout the states. There were over a hundred other participating countries from around the globe. It was simply amazing how so many nationalities could get together in the same one place and compete in a friendly environment. Every contestant that I met was very warm and welcoming toward one another.

I was almost along the borderline of giving up, after witnessing the extraordinary talents of the contestants and listening to their long years expertise in Turkish speaking.

From the very beginning of this competition, I could not have come this far if it was not been for the support and prayers of my family, friends and teachers. I would like to thank ISIK College for giving me this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Nurun Abdulhamid, 9Y