



Issue 14

10th March, 2017

Student Absence

Attendance is critically linked to student success. Sub School Leaders would like to remind parents and guardians that only 3 'parent approved' absences (notes) are considered permissible, after this stage, medical certification is required for absences to be approved. Please also be aware, any families planning extended holidays during the school term need to inform the Sub School at least one week prior to leaving to allow teachers to work with students to agree upon a Student Absence Learning Plan, please find more information about attendance further on in this Newsletter.

Please make direct contact with Sub Schools, on the numbers below, to discuss and report absences or any other concerns:

Arts/Humanities -	Amanda Muxworthy 8795 1017 Melinda Dalorno 8795 1019 Martina Drendel 8795 1021
Science/IT/Commerce -	Lyndal Yaldas 8795 1085 Karen Woodward 8795 1048 Sue Clinnick 8795 1085
Sport & Health Science -	Jamie Fardell 8795 1092 Deb Crew 8795 1015 Michael Boyer 8795 1060 Sue Lubbock 8795 1041
Traditional Trades -	Scott Kirkby 8795 1080 Lori Benis 8795 1079 Maria Pradolin 8795 1081

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for Wednesday 22nd March from 4pm to 8pm.

Bookings for this will be open on Compass by the close of business on Friday 10th March. They will remain open until Wednesday 22nd at 12pm.

Important Dates

Tuesday 14th March

VCAL Dandenong Market Excursion

Wednesday 15th March

Student Leaders Camp

Friday 17th March

VCAL Dandenong Market Excursion

Saturday 18th March

RSA Course running at HSC

Saturday 18th March

RSA Course running at HSC

Wednesday 22nd March

Parent Teacher Interviews 4—8pm

Finance Office Open until 8pm

VET classes finish at 3pm

Friday 31st March

End of Term 1

Tuesday 18th April

First day Term 2

Wednesday 3rd May

Yr 10 Parents- Cooking with Chef



Hallam Senior College

Linking Learning and Life

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Parent Teacher Conferences Cont.

When making bookings parents are advised to consider the following:

- Teacher locations – Teachers will be seated according to the teachers sub school. This creates 4 areas around the school where interviews will take place. Parent movement between spaces can take a few minutes so it's best not to book appointments back to back, instead, at least one space between appointments is advised when booking multiple appointments.
- Additional interviews – Compass allows for appointments to be made with both the students' classroom teachers as well as support staff involved in your child's education, e.g. Sub School leaders, Learning and Engagement leaders, and Sub School attendance staff etc.
- Finance – The Finance Office will be open on parent teacher night also. If parents would like to meet with someone from finance the Compass booking system can be used. Parents are asked to book an appointment with Adine O'Brien using the Compass booking system. She will be located in the general office until 8pm.
- VET Classes—All extended VET classes will finish at 3pm in preparation for Parent Teacher conferences.

If parents have any issues logging onto Compass please contact the College and speak with your student's relevant sub school. We look forward to meeting with you on parent teacher night.

VET Classes and Correct Uniform

A reminder to all students and parents that Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is required at every class in the following VET subjects:

- Automotive
- Beauty and Retail Makeup
- Building and Construction
- Furniture Making
- Hairdressing and Salon Assistant
- Hospitality
- Plumbing

Students are not able to participate in practical lessons without the correct PPE due to Health and Safety Regulations and the requirements of the course.

VET classes are important for completing senior school certificates for most students. If you are not sure what is required please speak with the teacher of the subject.

Student Awards

Students who have shown continuous, outstanding efforts throughout numerous aspects of the College will be presented with 'Student of the Week' and Sub School (Bronze, Silver and Gold) Awards. Please find more information about our Student Positive Recognition Program on the College Website [here](#).

Our 'Students of the Week' so far have been as follows:

Tradition Trades

Annabelle Geerdharry
Alana Burgess
Deric Dubuission-Perrine

Sport and Health Sciences

Dominic Balden
Shakaia TeHuna
Jayden Lay
Kerrie Hook

Establishing a Routine of Good Study Habits

SAC DATES

Please make note of the following SAC dates and times:

Thursday 23rd March — **Software Development SAT**

Friday 24th March — **Music Performance SAC**

Monday 21st March — **Drama Unit 3 SAC**

Thursday 30th March — **VET Information Technology SAC**

If a student is ill and cannot attend on the day, a medical certificate must be provided and the Sub School contacted for a school approved absence.

Students must make arrangements with their teacher to complete the SAC at a different time.

STUDY FOR SUCCESS

Supervised study sessions are held in the library Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons until 5.30 p.m. Tutors and teachers are available to assist students with their studies. Toasted sandwiches and fruit provided.

Quiet Study Area

The Great Space is available as a quiet study area for Year 12 students from Monday to Friday 8.30 am – 3.30 pm. Water bottles allowed at study desks, food and drink in the kitchen area only.

HOME LEARNING

VCE students should be completing a minimum of 3 - 4 hours homework and or revision for each subject every week. If the teacher has not set homework or all tasks have been completed in class, students should be revising work from previous classes or working on their folios. This aspect of VCE studies is very important for students to ensure they achieve the best results possible.

GENERAL ABILITY TEST (GAT)

All VCE students enrolled in a VCE or VCE/VET Unit 3/4 subject **must** sit for the GAT on 14 June. The results of this test are used by VCAA to moderate study scores at the end of the year. Students must take this test seriously and make every attempt to do their best. The television screens around the school will have notices about preparation seminars and practice GAT sessions.

Senior VCAL Students and Exams

Senior VCAL students enrolled in a Unit 3 /4 VCE subject or a Unit 3/ 4 VCE/VET subject are eligible to complete the GAT and VCAA external end of year exams. As VCAL students do not receive study scores for their VCAL subjects, and will not be receiving an ATAR, completing the GAT and end of year exams is not compulsory. Students may decide they do not wish to complete the GAT or end of year external exams. This means there will be no study score for that particular VCE or VCE/VET subject for the Senior VCAL student.

Any Senior VCAL student wanting to complete scored assessments, the GAT, and end of year VCAA external exams to gain a study score, must notify Ms COX by the end of term 1, or the school records will indicate that the Senior VCAL student is not undertaking scored assessment, the GAT or completing VCAA external end of year exams.

Senior VCAL students wanting to do the exams, please see Ms Cox by 31 March 2017.

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be completed and mailed out to families at the end of next week (17/03/17).

These reports contain a score out of 30. This score is based on teacher judgements of Hallam Senior College 'Effective Learner Behaviours'. These include, attendance, work completion, quality of work, effort, behaviour and self-management.

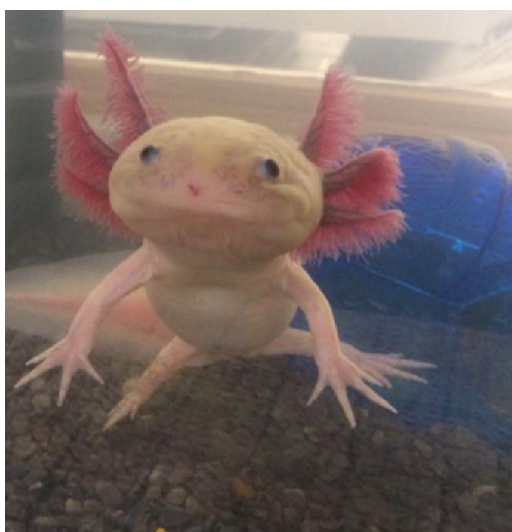
The score does not relate to or have any impact on VCE study scores or the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).

The score is used as a way of understanding and improving student progress.

Payments to the College

We ask that Subject Materials Charges are paid or that a payment plan has been set up, by the end of Term 1, 31st March 2017. We offer flexible payment plans suitable to families – simply call or pop in to the Finance Office. Health care card/ Pension card holders may be eligible for Camps, Sports and Excursions Funding (CSEF) from the government. You will need to complete the application form, available from the College Office and provide a copy of your current card to the College. Please do not hesitate to contact the College for assistance.

Library News



Welcome to the newly named axolotl, Libros Nyx. She (we think) was named this because Libros is the Spanish word for books and this creature now lives in the library, and a Nyx is a form of water spirit. Congratulations to James McBride and Jess Cole who received canteen vouchers for their winning entries, and thanks to the hundreds of other entries we received.

Hallam Reading Challenge 2017

The challenge is this, **READ** and **REVIEW** as many books as possible before the end of Term 3. Submit your reviews to Margaret or Jodie in the Library.

Get reading!

Attendance Policy

At Hallam Senior College we believe that:

- Every student can learn
- Every student can achieve
- Every student can succeed
- Every student can excel

Everyone has a role in and is responsible for improving student outcomes. If parents and teachers promote excellent school attendance, students will have a greater opportunity for educational success and wellbeing.

Please find a selection of importance information about the Hallam Senior College attendance policy and procedures.

Absences:

Absences are classified as either Approved or Unapproved. This means that the principal has decided that it is only acceptable to be absent from school for certain reasons.

Lateness:

The school does not give late passes unless a parent has made contact with the school to explain lateness in relation to medical/ legal/ wellbeing issues. Students who have “slept” in or missed a bus for example, would ordinarily go straight to class. Teachers will manage this situation according to their individual classroom management plan which may include detentions and demerit points.

Attendance Improvement Implementation

Family Holidays:

The school discourages students from going on holiday during the school term because this can have a negative effect upon student learning and achievement. Family holidays will only be approved if the student has completed an Absence Learning Plan prior to the holiday. This requires the student's parent/guardian/ carer to contact the school at least four weeks before the holiday so that the Absence Learning Plan can be negotiated with the student's teachers. An Absence Learning Plan usually requires students to undertake set tasks whilst on holiday.

What the teacher can do:

- Develop & implement curriculum which is challenging and engaging for students
- Accurately and consistently mark rolls, including lateness, at the beginning of the class
- Follow lateness with an appropriate consequence as per individual classroom management plan before referring to sub school staff
- Monitor individual student attendance and discuss with individual students
- Communicate with parents regularly regarding progress and attendance through formal reporting, phone & Compass communication
- Notify sub school when a student is consistently absent & there has been no information provided about the absence
- Show concern for students who have been absent and supply them with missed work. Allow the student reasonable time to catch up.
- Support students who require an Individual Learning Plan as part of the attendance reengagement process where applicable

What students can do:

- Attend all timetabled classes and arrive on time
- Report to sick bay at the general office if you are sick during the school day
- Remain on school grounds at all times during the day unless you have a pass to leave school during your study periods at the end of the day
- Report to your Engagement Officer in the sub school if you have to leave school early for the day
- Speak to your Engagement Officer if you are experiencing issues that prevent you from coming to school or arriving at school on time
- Provide certificates or parental explanation for your absences
- Discuss with your teacher the work that you need to catch up on if you have been away
- Provide certificates for rescheduled assessment tasks as appropriate

What parents can do:

- Encourage your child to attend school everyday
- Notify your child's Engagement Officer, preferably in advance, if your son/ daughter is absent
- Notify your child's Engagement Officer, preferably in writing, if your child needs to leave early during the day
- Notify your child's Engagement Officer, sub school staff or Assistant Principal if you have concerns that might impact upon your child's attendance or wellbeing
- Provide certificates and explanations for absences
- Use Compass to track your son/ daughter's attendance and communicate with the school
- Make appointments for your son/ daughter after school hours
- Avoid organizing family holidays during the school term

Attendance Policy Cont.

Approved reasons for absence	Documentation	Unapproved reasons for absence
Illness with Medical Certificate	Certificate or Statutory Declaration	Truancy
Medical /Dental appointment	Certificate or Statutory Declaration	Illness without a medical certificate
Funeral – notice from the paper & note from home	Letter from home / funeral notice from newspaper	Lateness to class
Legal reasons	Official document or letter	Shopping trips , birthdays
Family holiday – Absence learning plan must be completed prior to the holiday	Absence learning plan	Employment (other than work experience of Structured workplace learning)
Counselling	Certificate, Provider Letter or Statutory Declaration	
Religious /cultural observance	Letter from family/ School proforma	
School approved sport & co-curricula programs	Compass approvals	
Illness / accident / welfare with note from parent / carer – maximum of three days only per semester	Letter from family	
Learner's permits / driving tests	Vic Roads	Driving Lessons

Careers News

Hallam Senior College has a Careers News site attached to the school's web address. This can be found under 'Careers' and 'Pathways Hub'. Students and parents can register to gain access to important Career information including dates and newsletters.

Year 10 – Students are working on finding Work Experience for later this year. All Year 10 students will be required to complete 2 weeks of Work Experience from 16th October to 27th October. Students can choose to go to one place for two weeks or two separate experiences. This is a great opportunity for young people to try a career they are interested in to see if it's right for them. Year 10 students also participate in the Mock Interview program. We have a number of employers interview students for a mock position. We do this offsite and the dates we have selected are 26th April and 30th August. Information will be available in the next two weeks for those attending interviews in April.

Year 12 – Students will have a very busy year completing coursework and deciding on a pathway for next year. There will be a number of information sessions in Term 3 as well as Open Days at a range of Tertiary institutions. A calendar of events will be available soon.

Careers Expo – Friday 5th May is the Careers Expo at Caulfield Racecourse. We have 100 tickets for this event for students from any year level. The cost is \$10 and will cover transport and entry to the expo. Any students who would like to go need to see Ms Carlos in the Pathways Hub. Once the tickets have gone, we will not be able to get any more. This is a very popular excursion so please register now.

If you need any information on Careers and Pathways, please contact the Pathways Hub at school.

Year 10 Parents are invited to a special evening

Cooking With Chef

No experience necessary!

Just come with comfortable clothes, closed flat shoes or boots, a hungry tummy & a sense of humour!

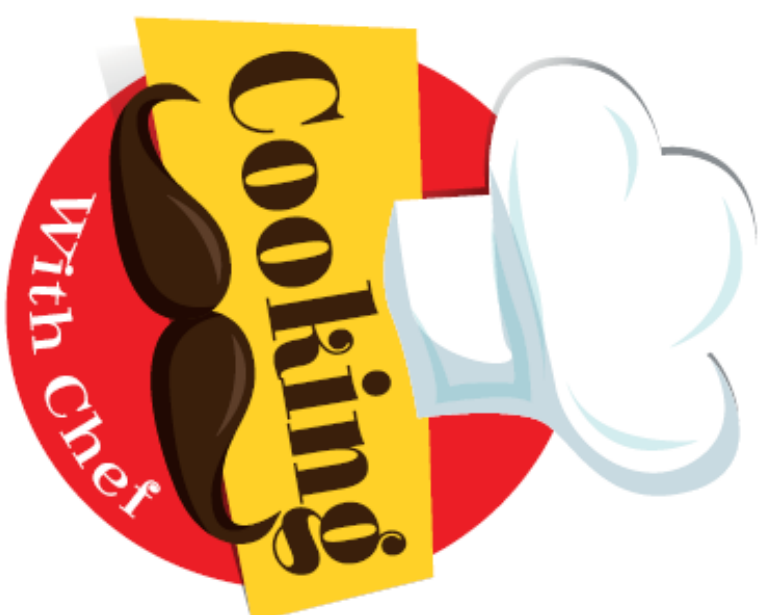
Wednesday 3rd May 6:30-9pm

Hospitality Department,
Hallam Senior College, Frawley Road, Hallam
RSVP : Friday 21st April to 97031266

Chef, Wolfgang Kessler, has more than 30 years' experience working in various restaurants, hotels and commercial kitchens in Germany and Australia.

His passion for food and cooking is infectious. He loves to share his knowledge and enthusiasm to give you confidence in the kitchen and will have your taste buds tingling!

So come along and learn a few tips from the expert, meet other Year 10 parents and enjoy an evening of food and fun.



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Linking Learning and Life

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**Send love,
not hate.**
Some of us are already having a hard day.



stymie.
#saysomething