NEWSLETTERS
Please note that from the beginning of Term 2 we will begin distributing the Campus Newsletter electronically and in preparation we ask all families to ensure they have supplied the school with a current email address. We have many addresses from the enrolment forms however it is not a complete list at this stage. There will still be some hardcopies of the newsletter available from the General Office for students to collect if emailing is not convenient.

END OF TERM 1
Students and Staff are looking forward to the Easter break to catch their breath and grab the chance to have some rest and recuperation before we head into another intensive term. It is also an opportunity to consolidate the learning from Term 1 and prepare for Term 2. It is vitally important for VCE students in particular to use the break in classes to ensure their notes are up-to-date and they are well prepared for the rest of the semester. Next Term will see all VCE students sitting an exam and preparation begins now.

We would like to wish everyone in our learning community a Happy Easter and safe holiday period.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Our first Parent/Teacher interviews for the year were held on Tuesday afternoon and provided a valuable opportunity to discuss progress and strategies for improvement. Any parents who were unable to attend or speak to a particular teacher are encouraged to contact the school to discuss any concerns related to the most recent progress report with the relevant teacher. Any general queries can be directed toward the Student Management Team.

MORWELL EAST FOOTBALL/NETBALL CLUB—U16 & U18 FOOTBALLERS WANTED
Training changes to Monday & Thursday from 19th March. 5-6pm at Morwell East, Vary St Morwell.
BBQ / Registration Night following training on Thursday 29th March.
Practice Match at Cowarr Sat 31st March, first game Sat 14th April.
Contact Jacob Blair (U16) 0403640580, Jay Crofts (U18) 0431469252 or Gavin Blair (President) 0408142095.
All past and new players welcome.
NEWS FROM THE HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

By Kane Armistead

On Wednesday March 21, 2012 I was a part of 27-strong Victorian Team of delegates that flew to Canberra for the 17th National Schools Constitutional convention. We stayed at the Rex Hotel and were escorted around on buses dedicated to each state. We had lunch at Parliament House on the first day and then were lucky enough to see Question time which saw 9 members get sent out of the chamber. After question time, we had a Ministerial welcome reception in the main committee Room of Parliament House. I was chosen to present a speech of appreciation and thanks to all ministers including Peter Garrett, Malcolm Turnbull and many more in the room and all event organisers. After I had finished my speech I was able to have a photo with Mr Peter Garrett, Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth. We then had the chance to meet our national members but unfortunately mine was unable to attend due to prior commitments. We then went back to the hotel and were treated to a fantastic dinner in the hotel.

Day 2 saw a 6:00am breakfast and a bus trip to Old Parliament House. We had our group photo taken on the steps of Old Parliament House. We then had the convention opened after a welcome to country and it was opened by the Senator Jacinta Collins. Next all delegates were treated to a lecture on ‘what do we mean by Federalism?’ by Professor John Warhurst.

After morning tea, a panel discussion was held. This saw cases for and against the Commonwealth assuming full powers over water and health by doctors and professors with a comparison between the Australian system and the Canadian Model. We were then allocated into working groups which contained 10 people of random allocation in order to mingle with other states and territories. Working group 1 saw comparative constitutions of many countries being analysed and then working group 2 saw a look at only the Australian constitution.

We then discussed the issues of health and water and whether it was the state or commonwealth who currently do or should have the power of these areas. We had a soap box session for half an hour where people voiced their views on a wide range of topics and it was interesting to see where all of the opinions had come from and the things that comprised the other delegates’ arguments into certain issues.

That night we had my favourite part of the Convention where we had an Official Dinner at the High Court of Australia. We saw a court room and were even able to go behind the roped off sections just for the occasion! We had the ACT Young Lawyer of the year in 2009 Nicholas Tebbey deliver a fantastic speech. After the night had concluded, we went back to the hotel.

We had breakfast on the last day and took our entire luggage with us as we went back to Old Parliament House. We heard about referenda and its introduction with the double majority rule being explained and reasons for referendums vs. High Court interpretation in terms of altering the meaning of the Australian Constitution. Next the overall initiation and process of referenda was explained by a member from the Australian Electoral Commission. We had a fourth working group on referenda and report back. We then participated in a mock referendum whereby state by state we were asked to vote yes or no in two proposed amendments, ‘whether the commonwealth should have control of public and private health’ which was defeated by a 4-2 state majority not in favour of this amendment and the other being that ‘the Commonwealth should be the allocator of water from the Murray-Darling Basin System. This was won by a 5-1 state majority and over 50% of the state majority in favour of this amendment and the constitution was changed. Next we finalised a communiqué, which was to incorporate referendum results and be given to Jacinta Collins to present to Hansard to make it an act of parliament and on the books. Lastly, the Senator Stephen Parry was presented with the communiqué and all appropriate organisers were again thanked and the convention was closed.

The Victorian team went to the airport and waited for the plane back to Melbourne still buzzing from the excitement of their last three days. We all said our goodbyes and thanked everyone for the experience and went our own ways.

It was an amazing experience that I would express to any keen legal student to go to the regional United Nations Model Assembly and then go to the State Constitutional Convention and then hopefully if selected maybe even go to the 18th National Schools Constitutional Convention in Canberra in 2013! You will love every second of it, I miss it already!

CANBERRA TRIP
By Cassandra Hooimeyer

Last Tuesday, the Year 12 Legal Studies and Year 12 History classes travelled up to Canberra for a four day camp. Joined by students from Traralgon College, we spent two jam packed days enjoying the sights and sounds of our capital. Besides spending one afternoon in the magnificent War Memorial, we had a guided tour at the Renaissance exhibition at the National Gallery of Australia and the Governor General’s wonderful staff showed us through the house and grounds of Government House.
At old Parliament House we visited the Australian Electoral Commission where we were taken through the referendum process and participated in a mock referendum. We also visited the High Court of Australia. It wasn’t sitting at the time, but we did sit inside the courtrooms where education officers spoke to us about the history of the court and some of its landmark cases.

At parliament house we participated in a staged introduction of a bill and question time, including a division of the house vote. It was then interesting to see an actual division vote take place in the House of Representatives. Before sitting in on parliament question time we were fortunate enough to meet out local Member of Parliament Darren Chester. Mr. Chester accompanied us and sat with us in the public gallery.

We also took in a movie and had tremendous fun during a night of ice skating. The weather was clear and sunny and thanks to the organizers and our awesome teachers we returned on Friday to a soggy Gippsland but with a fantastic learning experience and new friends.

FROM THE TEACHERS
By Kallitsa Yiannacou

On behalf of Michael Eastham and myself I would like to thank our students who accompanied us to Canberra for their enthusiasm and exemplary behaviour. We enjoyed spending the time with them and getting to know them outside the classroom. To our students who were unable to join us, we thank you for your patience and for taking on board the work we left for you without fuss or complaint.

Kylie Andrews and I would like to congratulate Kane Armistead who was in Canberra at the same time attending the Constitutional Convention. Students from across Australia, (Government, Catholic and Independent schools), are selected to attend the convention and Kane was asked to deliver the thank you speech on behalf of the students to the minister Mr. Peter Garrett and other politicians attending as well as the organizers.

We received a phone call from the organizers to inform us that Kane was a ‘stand out’ at the convention and that they were impressed with him. Well done Kane.

Above: The National Gallery of Australia

Top Right: New Parliament House

Bottom Right: Parliament Education Session
Volunteer Your Time
Support Young People to Become Safe Drivers

Berry Street needs experienced drivers to join the Latrobe Community L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program to assist learners (16 - 20 yrs) gain the 120 hours of driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence.

If you can:
- spend an hour or two a week with a learner in the driving environment
- help learners to develop safe and practical driving skills
- build positive and supportive friendships with a young person

We will:
- provide comprehensive Volunteer Supervising Driver Training
- supply a fully sponsored automatic program vehicle
- ensure ongoing support through the Berry Street Gippsland Mentoring Community

Be inspired to see your learner reach their potential and achieve their driving goals!

For further information contact Jenn Murray on 5134 5971 or email jmurray@berrystreet.org.au

Undergo a selection process, an interview and complete the training and be prepared to spend time with a young person.

Your driving experience could make a difference!

Berry Street believes all children should have a good childhood, growing up feeling safe, nurtured and with hope for the future.