

Frequently Asked Questions

How did the City Experience go?

We were extremely pleased with how this part of our new program went last term. Tim Bailey did a fantastic job in bringing together a challenging and enjoyable program. The days were filled with interesting activities and visits to places of unique significance to the city of Melbourne. A highlight for many of the students was their rotation to the Magistrates' Court. For many of our students this was the first time that they had seen the justice system 'at work' and it made a significant impact. The Thursday afternoon recreational activities were also a highlight.

The work booklet and investigation task (researched in the city and then completed back at school) gave the students' many opportunities to reflect on their learning and experiences and to think critically about those aspects of the city that reflect the character of God and those aspects that don't. It has been a privilege to read the comments, responses and prayers of our students in their booklets and in their investigation reports. We were extremely impressed with the maturity and good sense of our students in the city. They navigated their way safely around the city, met promptly at designated meeting points, completed often challenging and thought-provoking activities and survived the week, all with good humour! We were very proud of their conduct though-out the week and received many pleasing comments from members of the public.

COLLEGE CONTACT DETAILS

155 Tindals Road
Donvale 3111 VIC
Phone: (03) 9844 2471
Fax: (03) 9844 1102
www.donvale.vic.edu.au

Head of Year 9
Narelle Sketcher
sketnar@mail.donvale.vic.edu.au



What's Coming Up:

- Interhouse Cross Country: 5th August
Visit by Rev Tim Costello: 13th August
Yr 10 in 2009 Information Evening: 21st August
Yr 9 Field Trip Excursion: 27th August
Yr 9 Health Week: 1st-5th September
Community Service Experience: 15th-17th September

Newsletter Online

Did you know that you can also access this Year 9 newsletter online? View the Networks Newsletter page at www.donvale.vic.edu.au.

Student Input

'The City Experience was good because.....
It was well structured and no one wandered aimlessly around the city or got lost because they were constantly busy with activities. My favourite activity was when we went shopping in the city because we got to experience all the different food. William Costin

'I learnt a lot through the City Experience, but one of the main things was about marginalised people and what we can do as a community to help. A highlight of the City Experience was going rock climbing, it was a great way to spend the Thursday afternoon.'

Kirralee Schumann



Student Input

A number of students were asked to comment on what they enjoyed about the City Experience

“ “The City Experience was great! There were lots of activities and many options to choose for the recreational activities. I did the kayaking and it proved challenging. Overall it was a great experience. The free time was used well and the majority of people worked hard on their individual assignments. It was well managed and really helped me get a better knowledge of the city. Jeremy Yau

"The year 9 City Experience was very enjoyable and a great opportunity to achieve a better understanding of the city. We liked going to the Queen Victoria Market and the Magistrates Court. It was a good experience that we had to find our own way to certain places at specific times. This was sometimes challenging but still a good experience. We also learnt about the different cultures in Melbourne and how we must respect their differences. Overall, we had a great time.' Dillon, Andrew, and Joel ”

Curriculum Update

Upon our return to school in Term 3, Year 9 students have the opportunity to engage with two periods of Australian history that have had a huge impact on our national identity. The First and Second World Wars have left a remarkable legacy and it is through guided research that the Year 9 students have an opportunity to investigate this legacy for themselves. It is with these activities that we conclude our unit 'Fallen Angels'.

As with Gold and the Indigenous narratives, students will be given the choice to investigate either WWI or WWII. The two assignments are designed to foster individual research skills, formulation of an extended response to a general question and accurate presentation of information to support a point of view.

As we have already seen this year, it is most exciting when students are set a complex task and rise to the challenge set before them. Their journey to becoming self-directed and life-long learners is, we hope, enhanced by study opportunities like these.

Kathryn Delaney.

What's happening in ...

Earthprobe.....

All seems to be going well with the 10 projects involved with EarthProbe program at the end of the semester. Semester 2 has seen a number of students move into different projects, to try something new.

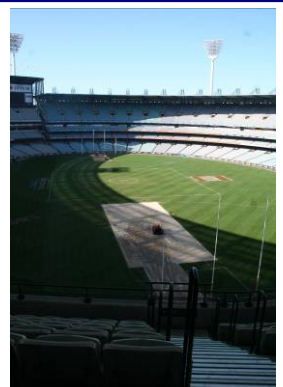
A new Eco-op this semester is 'Bike Busters'. It aims to develop skills within the group, to maintain and revamp old bikes to be sold, or donated to charities at the end of the year. So the boys are looking for any bikes that are no longer being used, to be donated for this project.

Sampson, the College's first-born alpaca is growing rapidly, with students commenting on his growth each trip. Lately the students have been involved in vaccinating and drenching our herd and learning to halter train the animals.

The Vegie garden is full of winter crops with Cos Lettuce, Broccoli, Spinach and Beetroot. The Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Eco-op have been busy making recycled paper and paper bricks as well as recycling photocopier & printer cartridges, wastepaper and cans. Their first load of cans went to the recycler at the end of last term.

John Harris

City Experience



ACT JUSTLY

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