

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of coming to Parent/Teacher Interviews?

The upcoming parent/teacher interviews provide an opportunity for you to come and discuss your child's learning progress. Ideally we would like you to bring your Year 9 child with you as we believe any discussion about their learning should include them as well! The recent reports and interview are 'formative' in nature – that is, they are designed to identify areas where learning can still improve. In Community Life classes, students have reflected carefully on their reports and set goals for themselves for the coming term. They have been encouraged to go home and share their goals with you. If you haven't already made a booking to see your child's teachers, please contact Secondary Administration.

What is the role of the Integrated Experiences in our Year 9 program?

A fundamental element of the Year 9 program is the recognition that learning doesn't only happen in the school environment. Crucial aspects of personal development and community building happen in challenging and confronting environments. This term, the Wilson's Prom and City Experiences will both provide opportunities for your child to develop and mature in their decision making and life skills. Learning to rely not only on themselves, but also others in their groups is critical to their development. We also hope that students have the time to reflect on their journey with God and the importance of faith in their lives.

Narelle Sketcher

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
Narelle.Sketcher@donvale.vic.edu.au

What's Coming Up:

- 7th & 12th May- Parent Teacher Interviews
- 8th May- Students finish early @ 2.30pm
- 9th May- College Open Day
- 12th May-14th May- NAPLAN Testing
- 18th-22nd May- Wilson's Prom Experience
- 25th-26th May- OAT Camp
- 28th May- Parent Morning Tea @9am

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.

Debris Design

The Year 9 Debris Design group are in need of your old items to make into something fabulous. If you have any of these items please donate them to us. Jeans, t-shirts, dresses, beads and any jewellery, buttons, zips, ribbons, knitting wool and needles, cottons, any sewing items, fabric, knitted jumpers/cardigans, old suits, cushions, cushion inserts, cushion stuffing, bags, craft materials and equipment of anything else you don't need, we can transform into something great! Please drop your items off to Ms Miller in the Art Room. Thank you.

We are also searching for volunteers to help out in the classroom. If you or someone you know, perhaps a "Grandmother" would like to offer sometime to help make things with the students, we would appreciate this. Please email Jueaneene Kilmartin on Jueaneene.Kilmartin@donvale.vic.edu.au for more information on volunteering. Thank you.



Student Input



I thought the Marvel and Mystery Conference went really well. It gave us all a chance to see other people's talents and what they have to give to the school community. Also the school supplied all of the food and drinks, that was the highlight of my day.

Rick Pantas

I was very optimistic about the Marvel and Mystery conference as it seemed like an incredibly novel idea and a great way to reinforce what we had learnt throughout term one. It seems my optimism was well placed and lived up to my expectations. All the students were very creative with their roles and put a lot of effort in the weeks leading up to the conference. Whether it was a drama skit, a quiz show, a weather report, an analytical panel or just teaching about teaching, it was all awesome and enthralling to watch our peers take part talking about 'Marvel and Mystery'.

Duncan Kajewski



Curriculum Update

Coresplore

The Year 9 students have begun a new unit of work this term, entitled "Fallen Angels". The major focus of this unit is Australia's story. From an overview of Australia's history done in class by creating a giant timeline, we investigate Australia's participation in World Wars One and Two, studied with a view to answering the overarching question "Is this a tragedy or a triumph? Fallen Angels continues the Biblical meta-narrative begun in Marvel and Mystery last term.

Students will engage in a variety of learning activities in Coresplore, aimed at giving them structured choices, developing their research and higher-order thinking skills – like analysis and evaluation of historical evidence. Students will also be studying the Gary Disher novel "Moondyne Kate", set partially in Australia's Gold Rush era. It is a terrific story that provides much discussion, especially when the tragic and triumphal elements are identified. As with all our course work, Christian perspectives are closely and specifically interwoven into the tasks and discussions.

Towards the end of this term the students will employ their critical thinking skills in a project conducted in the city. The City Experience will look at aspects of Triumph and / or Tragedy in the city of Melbourne and the Year 9s, working in small groups, will produce a field report each. These field reports will form a major part of their assessment for the term.

This term promises to be a time of engaging learning and fast paced events.

What's Happening In....

Coresplore.....Science

The Science curriculum within the "Marvel and Mystery" unit investigated some of the incredible creation God has given us. A particular focus was on Chemistry and Biology where atoms and molecules work together in perfect harmony.

The Chemistry component of the unit was comprised of a good balance of theory and practical work. Students studied the interactions of atoms and molecules in addition to the history of the early chemists and their experiments. The practical work challenged conventional beliefs of the three states of matter. In one assignment students investigated the Periodic Table, and then used higher order thinking processes to re-create their own version.

Biology consisted of studies of the nervous system, sensors and the brain. Investigations into the spacing and type of sensors in the body has been enlightening and informative.

The next unit of work will focus on Geology and where communities have been adversely affected by natural and man made disasters.

Overall, the Science curriculum has been interesting and challenging for the students

John Southwell

Marvel & Mystery Conference



ACT JUSTLY

LOVE KINDNESS

WALK HUMBLLY