Welcome to the final newsletter for 2016. This year has been a very busy and successful year academically, culturally, sporting and extra curricula. My congratulations go out to the student body, staff (teaching and non-teaching), parents and the School Board.

In terms of school performance, our data demonstrates that we are performing as we should or better. The Year 9 NAPLAN 2016 results in Numeracy, Reading and Writing show student progress above like Schools, Western Australian Schools and Australian Schools. In addition, our Year 9 student achievement was also above like and all WA Schools. I look forward to the ATAR results which students receive late December and are published in the New Year coupled with the WACE data.

Schools, however, can be measured in many ways, and it is my belief that they are greater than the aggregation of student performance data. What is measured is not always valuable, and what is valuable is not always measured. There have been a number of school activities this year that demonstrate the importance of the College in our community. These include, but are not limited to:

- Student commitment to helping others, through events including “Wear it Purple Day”, the Christmas Toy Drive, and the Lions Club fundraising;
- Mental Health Week activities;
- the Year 9 & 10 AEP Canberra Trip;
- the UK & Queensland Cricket tours;
- the Sydney dance trip;
- Belsurf & Athletics carnival;
- the ongoing success of our netballers and cricketers;
- the growth in the Performing Arts and the many school productions;
- the growth of the Year 6 Orientation program;
- the School Ball; and
- the Graduation of the Year 12 students.

The end of a school year also comes with saying our farewells to staff. My thanks go to the following staff for all their work this year in improving student outcomes and we wish them the best for 2017.

- Melissa Di Florio: successfully won a position at Ashdale SC for 2017 in English
- Grae Hastings: taking maternity leave
- Nathan Rennie: enrolled in University course for 2017
- Cathy Singleton
- Paul Williams

In closing, I would like to wish students, parents and staff all the best for Christmas and the holiday break. I would like to thank all of those that have assisted students throughout the year at Belridge SC. They have made significant contributions to the lives of these young people.

Have a safe and happy holiday,

MARIO PISANO
Acting Principal
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All students commence Term 1, 2017 Wednesday 1 February
Printable calendar for Term 1 will be uploaded on the school website late January 2017

2017 TERM DATES

TERM 1
Wednesday 1 February to Friday 7 April
School Holidays
Saturday 8 April to Sunday 23 April

TERM 2
Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June
School Holidays
Saturday 1 July to Sunday 16 July

TERM 3
Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September
School Holidays
Saturday 23 September to Sunday 8 October

TERM 4
Monday 9 October to Thursday 14 December

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2017

The College professional learning days in 2017 are:

Friday 3 March
Friday 2 June
Monday 7 August
From the Vice Principal - Senior School

Year 12 students had their final WACE exam on Friday 18 November.

It is the fourth time our students have sat their exams at Mater Dei and again we took precautions to make sure students were familiar with the environment. Hal Spedding and myself took students to Mater Dei before the exams. There, they were given a tour of the school, shown the exam room, toilets and so on. We also had a Belridge staff member present at the start of each exam with spare equipment and identification forms. The whole exercise went very smoothly. I now wish all our Year 12’s the best in their future endeavours.

**Special exam arrangements for Year 12 in 2017**

Students in Year 12, 2017 and their parents need to read this information carefully …

Candidates who have a permanent or temporary disability, illness and/or specific learning disability that could disadvantage them in demonstrating their knowledge, skills and understandings in standard assessments may apply to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority to sit WACE examinations under special arrangements. Applications can be made for the written and/or practical examinations. Applications must be made by the school. The Authority will notify the school and candidate of the decision.

The granting of special examination arrangements is not automatic, but takes into account medical and/or psychometric evidence plus supporting school-based information related to the candidate’s ability to access the examination. The role of special examination arrangements is to provide reasonable access to an examination. Schools should ensure that they have placed on record all current medical/psychological documents that relate to their decision to trial special arrangements for the student. Each application is considered individually, with decisions based on the nature of each examination to be sat by the candidate.

There are five sections:

- **Section A** Student details - to be completed by student
- **Section B** Provisions requested - to be completed by the school and the student
- **Section C** School case coordination - to be completed by the school and the student
- **Section D** Supporting information - relevant sections to be completed by the school, psychologist, occupational therapist
- **Section E** Medical evidence - to be completed by a medical practitioner/registered health professional (if applicable)

**Section F** Student’s declaration and principal’s declaration - to be completed by all applicants.

**PROVIDING EVIDENCE FOR SECTIONS D AND E IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT AND PARENT.**

Closing date for applications is 16 May 2017, but the process is long and complicated and needs to be started early in Term 1. If you think your son or daughter is eligible please contact me at the school on 9408 8000.

**Year 11**

The Year 11 students have also completed their final exams and work placements. On their final day, Monday 23 November, students returned to school to hand in their Workplace Learning logbooks and go through their exams with their teachers. Also, students that were not up to date in their certificate subjects were sent letters to return to school to catch up.

**2017 Years 11 and 12 Wednesdays: Period 5 Arrangements**

It is a timely reminder for the parents of all Year 11 and 12 students that Wednesday period 5 is an important period on the timetable and that students should not make arrangements to use the period for non-school activities, such as work.

Year 12 ATAR students will be required every Wednesday period 5 and all other Senior School students will need to attend where meetings and information-giving sessions are organised. Also, students in Years 11 and 12 that do not meet deadlines for assessments or are not up to date with their certificate courses, will be required to attend period 5 Wednesday until they complete this work. Mr Strickland will contact parents of students behind in their courses and Mr Notarpietro will do the same for certificate students. Failure to attend when required may result in loss of good standing.

Finally, I hope all Year 10 and 11 students have a good break and return refreshed for a great 2017.

**... one Final Message**

May I request that staff, parents and students be careful on the roads around the college. Students need to be extra careful whilst crossing the road when using mobile phones and need to remember to look right, then left and then right again. **Students need to take extra care crossing the exit from the main school car park as they are obscured from the vision of drivers by a solid wall.**

ROBERT STRICKLAND
Vice Principal
Unique Student Identifiers (USI)

All students undertaking VET Certificate courses are now required to obtain a USI. We will not be able to enrol students into 2017 VET Certificate courses without USIs, as the Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) we partner with require these as a condition of accepting student enrolments. We are still waiting to receive USIs from a number of our Year 10 students, and we urge all families of 2017 VET students to ensure the College has a record of your son or daughter’s USI by the close of the school year. For more information, visit our website, www.belridgecollege.wa.edu.au or the Commonwealth Government’s link www.usi.gov.au

Planning with ACER Progressive Achievement Tests

In an effort to better understand our students’ learning needs, the college has started using the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)’s Progressive Achievement (PAT) and Australian General Ability (AGAT) Tests with students in Years 6-10.

The tests are diagnostic, and can help teachers to identify individual and group strengths and weaknesses, and to target their teaching by understanding the differences in student developmental levels. As an example, PAT Reading Comprehension tests administered to our Year 9 students show an almost even spread across 3 achievement bands as well as a smaller number of students in the top and bottom bands.

Our Year 8 Maths students are similarly spread across achievement bands, requiring teachers to be able to reach a range of student learners and help them to progress.

In order to effectively support all our students, the college is increasingly using a range of data sources, including system assessments (NAPLAN, OLNA), commercial tests and programs, school performance and teacher judgements to monitor where students are at with their learning:

- What do they currently know?
- What do they not know?
- What misunderstandings have they developed?

We are planning to introduce some OLNA Support classes in 2017, to support Years 10-12 students who are yet to achieve the required Category 3 level in Reading, Writing or Numeracy assessments. These changes will look different in the different year groups:

- Year 10’s allocated a small group tutor teacher for OLNA tuition for one period each week,
- Year 11’s and 12’s being timetabled to attend an OLNA support class in the college library during Period 5 on Wednesdays

Parents of affected students will be notified in due course. Lastly, please let me take this opportunity to wish all members of our college community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Be safe in the sun

With melanoma rates climbing and evidence of the link between UV radiation and skin cancer, the approach of summer holidays and everyone spending lots of time on the beach and outdoors is a timely reminder to be Sun Smart.

Please remember to **Slip! Slop! Slap!**

Useful websites on how to be Sun Smart can be found at [melanomawa.org.au](http://melanomawa.org.au) and [sunsmart.com.au](http://sunsmart.com.au)

MEGAN DYSON
Community Health Nurse
Monday 28 November

Parents often wonder what school staff do on the school professional development days. The recent PD day was divided into two parts. In the morning session learning areas worked collaboratively on the Australian Curriculum. This provided them with the time necessary to have meaningful discussions as a group for an expansive period of time.

The afternoon session was held in conjunction with the Education Support Centre at the Joondalup Civic Centre. This was a great opportunity for the two schools to be one. This is very difficult to organise because of the different staff requirements. John Burke delivered the Aboriginal Cultural Standards Framework to a combined audience of 190 staff. This included teaching and non-teaching staff.

John was part of an executive team that assisted in the writing of the Aboriginal Cultural Standards Framework and he has delivered this PD to public school staff around the state. Staff enjoyed John’s presentation and his in-depth knowledge of Aboriginal Education.

John is currently on long service leave, but felt it important that this PD be delivered to both schools. We all thank John for commitment to the Belridge community.

MARIO PISANO
Acting Principal

The ConocoPhillips Science Experience is taking place at ECU Joondalup from 17 - 20 January 2017

ECU is offering four days of interactive hands-on workshops. A welcoming team of scientists and engineers will expose students to the following disciplines which could include:

1. School of Engineering (Motorsport, Robotics, Structural Engineering).
2. School of Medical and Health Science (Sport Analysis, Nutrition, Paramedicine, Explore DNA)
3. School of Nursing and Midwifery (Nursing)
4. School of Science (Chemical Forensics, Reptiles, Physics, Security Science and Technology)
5. School of Arts and Humanities (Psychology)

This event is suitable for current Year 8, 9 or 10 students who want to be exposed to science careers or have an interest in science. There are no interviews or entry tests as advanced science ability is not required.

The program costs $160. Students can register online or call the ConocoPhillips Science Experience office on the number below.

More information about the ConocoPhillips Science Experience? Watch our YouTube video by clicking the link here.

Feel free to visit the science experience website for all the information you may need, including costs and sponsorship at:

www.scienceexperience.com.au

If you would like to contact the ConocoPhillips Science Experience office, please call (03) 9756 7534.
The school year for 2016 is coming to an end and before long it will be the start of 2017.

Throughout the year we have had a fairly good response from parents for requests to pay and finalise your child’s charges and contributions and we thank you very much.

Those parents who are still on time payment plans, or have yet to pay outstanding amounts, please do so immediately.

The school offers EFTPOS facilities and credit card payments over the phone for your convenience. We also offer internet banking (Direct Deposit). Account details are as follows:

Account name: Belridge Secondary College
Bank: ANZ
BSB: 016-261
Account No: 102744334
Reference: Student Name and Year

WHEN MAKING A DIRECT DEPOSIT, PLEASE DETAIL THE STUDENT NAME & YEAR AND CHECK YOU DON’T MAKE AN EXTRA PAYMENT

BOOKSHOP 2017
The bookshop for 2017 will be run again by OfficeMax via an online ordering system. You can opt to have your orders delivered to your home or collect from store. Please note that orders will not be delivered to the school, as in previous years. To place orders, go to:

www.officemaxschools.com.au

and search for our school name or visit the OfficeMax (North) store at Unit 6/505 Scarborough Beach Road, Osborne Park, WA 6017 or (South) Unit 5/9 Yampi Way, Willetton WA 6155 or telephone 1800 004 427.

Details of how to order are set out on students’ booklists which were posted out, together with contribution and charges sheets, early December (see article on page 7).

As from Wednesday 25 January 2017, the front office will be accepting school charges and contribution payments, as well as Secondary Assistant Scheme applications.

CHARGES & CONTRIBUTIONS
Years 7-12 charges and contribution sheets for 2017 have now been posted. Please look carefully at the course selections, particularly the elective subjects that have a high cost, and if you are in any doubt about the final cost, contact the school to discuss.

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME
The Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. To be eligible for the allowance, the parent/guardian must hold a Centrelink or Veterans’ Affairs Card that represents a statement of income for the family. The allowance consists of two components:

- $115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian, or the school.
- $235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.

Application is made by the parent or guardian for students enrolled in Years 7-12.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
The Parent/Guardian must hold one of the following cards:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans’ Affairs Pensioner Concession Card (blue card)

The Parent/Guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid sometime during the first term. The only exception to this is when a student holds their own health care card and has been declared independent by Centrelink (e.g. living away from home). In this instance, a letter of confirmation from Centrelink needs to accompany the application.

LATE APPLICATIONS
Late applications will only be accepted in extenuating circumstances and must be accompanied with a written explanation. Eligible interstate or overseas students who are enrolled after first term may apply for the allowance. Date of enrolment must be noted on the application.

APPLICATION FORMS
Application forms are to be completed at the school and close on Friday 7 April 2017.

Office hours are between 8.00am and 4.00pm. Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information.

GREG CAREY
Manager of Corporate Services
Booklists, together with contribution and charge sheets, have now been mailed out and uploaded onto the school website. Orders can be placed through OfficeMax either in store or online.

The school’s password to enable you to place your online order is W4XM9M

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
You only need to order stationery relevant to the courses listed in your child’s contribution and charge sheet.

The school will be accepting applications for the Secondary Assistance Scheme as from Wednesday 25 January. Applications will only be accepted with one of the cards, as detailed below.

**SECONDFARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME**

YEARS 7 TO 12
YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO: $350 towards school expenses

**DO YOU HOLD A:**
- CENTRELINK HEALTH CARE CARD
- CENTRELINK PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD
- VETERANS’ AFFAIRS PENSIONER CONCESSION CARD

Applications Close
**Friday 7 April 2017**

ASK SCHOOL RECEPTION FOR MORE INFORMATION
Back to School Special

$20 Deposit Layby—Extended

Visit our store and secure your
Back to School Uniform order with just
$20 deposit before 20 December!

Pay off the balance and collect
your order before 21 January
to avoid the rush, long queues
and the last minute panic!

UNIFORMCONCEPTS
NELL GRAY

5/7 Delage St, Joondalup, WA 6027  T: 9270 4660
E: joondalup@uc.nellgray.com.au

Open: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm (Thursday 6pm) Saturday 9am - 1pm

Terms & Conditions
- All items must be paid for in full and collected by 21 Jan 2017
- Uncollected items after 21 Jan 2017 will be returned to stock and deposits refunded
On 6 December 2016 there were many excited faces bouncing through the gates of Belridge Secondary College as we welcomed the Year 6 students for their Orientation Day.

The students were lucky enough to spend the day at Belridge in preparation for their first day of High School next year. It can be very nerve-wracking for many students, but it was wonderful to see so many smiling, happy faces and new friendships forming already.

Each group of students participated in many different activities across the school including making pancakes in Home Economics, building their very own pencil holder in Design and Technology, rock climbing in the gym, Science experiments and viewing a performance in the Performing Arts Centre.

At the end of the day, I asked the students “Who feels less nervous about coming to high school after today?” and it was fantastic to see all of the student’s hands raised. The excited, but nervous, students that entered the gates that morning, were now tired after a very busy day. It was time to send them on their way, feeling more prepared about being a high school student.

I look forward to seeing all again next year as Year 7 Students at Belridge Secondary College.

MISS CURRIE
Year 7 Coordinator, 2017
Fashion & Design News

The Year 9 Fashion students have been busy making satchel bags during Term 4.

All the students have been responsible for cutting the large number of pattern pieces and attaching the ‘parlon’ (low pile wadding) as well as coping with the varied stages of construction. The bag is fully lined and has an internal and three external pockets. Students also sewed an adjustable strap that was decorated with embroidery stitches that they programmed on the Bernina 720 machine.

The flap design is an original creation that each student developed using the pixilR app.

MRS DYER
Fashion & Design Coordinator

The Arts

- Do you have an interest in Dance?
- Would you like opportunities to perform at public events?
- Would you like to extend your abilities with guest choreographers?

If you answered “yes” for any of the above questions, you should audition for the Belridge Dance Company in 2017.

The Belridge Dance Company formed in 2016 and was given opportunities to work with Marko Panzic and Cat Santos (from Sydney), perform at the Relay for Life and Dance for a Cure events and travelled to Sydney for the Australian Dance Festival. In 2017 we are looking for new members to join us. We will be holding auditions in Week 3 of Term 1 2017 on Monday 13 February. Please look out for the notices at the start of next year or see Miss Currie for more information. We look forward to welcoming new members on board!

MISS CURRIE
Dance Teacher
Guest Speaker: Mike Faulkner Joondalup Business Association

On Tuesday 6 December, Mike Faulkner, Executive Officer of the Joondalup Business Association was invited to Belridge Secondary College to present to the Year 10 Certificate I students.

Mike is the Executive Officer of Joondalup Business Association which has 250 business members. The Joondalup Business Association looks at developing a ‘buy local’ theme which aims at helping and supporting businesses within the Joondalup area. They assist in policy development, procedures, expansion and sourcing local and international markets for their members. They assist new business start-ups with regulation compliance, employment of staff and licencing laws.

Mike has over 30 years' experience in the business area including working in the Banking and Finance industry. He used his experience and knowledge to talk to the students on a range of topics including:

- Resume writing
- Interview protocols
- Importance of good communication skills
- Social networking and its effect on employment opportunities
- Globalisation and the effect on business structure as we know it
- Cultural differences in society and the important role it plays in dealings with business

Students were given an insight into business operations which will help them in the short term job market as well as when they leave school. He gave us some very humorous real life stories, as well as his many experiences in dealing with business people from other cultures. I think the one big tip to all students, particularly those going to University, is to ensure that you network with other people in your class. At the present time 0.3% of the world is digitally connected - by 2030 that figure will rise to 60%. Businesses are interested in how you, as an employee, can bring other business and money to their company.

The students found this presentation very informative and some students showed their initiative in seeing Mike after the presentation to help them with their future careers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike for giving up his valuable time. Mike also spoke to the Certificate II students last term.

MRS LEANNE GENDLE
Business Teacher
On Monday, 5 December, ECU’s School of Computer and Security Science hosted an Intelligence Operations workshop for a select group of Year 9 and Year 10 students from Belridge Secondary College.

Intelligence is the collection and analysis of information at the international, national or local level to inform decision makers as they work to secure a country’s government, military, business, political, economic and/or environmental interests. Counterintelligence is the protection of this sensitive information. ECU Security Intelligence lecturers and students worked together to create a realistic scenario for Belridge students to engage in a half day session to grasp the reality of what it means to work in such an environment. Belridge students worked together to analyse data, apprehend and interrogate the suspects to prevent an explosion within the grounds of ECU Joondalup.

The students would like to thank ECU for providing us with this unique experience. The exposure to Security Intelligence organised with Jeff Corkill, Dr Michelle Ellis and Security Science PHD and 3rd Year students was a really inspiring and eye opening experience that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

“This was a fun and interesting introduction to Security and Intelligence through enjoyable activities by lecturers and students from ECU.” - Year 9 and 10 students summarise their experience.

Written by Miha Grandlic and Jessica Dippenaar

GLYNNE BARTLE (AEP Coordinator) and PETRA TRINKE (ICT Teacher)

New titles added to the library

- Doctor Who: The Eighth Doctor - Volume 1 A Matter of Life and Death
- Superman Adventures - Volume 1
- Sleeping Beauty - Magic Master
- Anne of Green Bagels
- Monster Movie
- Goldilocks and the Three Vampires
- The Iron Empire
- Finding Dory
- Halloween Party
- Double Down
- Heist Society
- Fragile Eternity

GLYNNE BARTLE (AEP Coordinator) and PETRA TRINKE (ICT Teacher)
What’s been happening in English?

WA Youth Awards Gala 2016
The Awards Gala for the WA Youth Awards 2016 was held on Friday 25 November and one of our own was celebrated as a finalist. Joanna Alexandré was one of four finalists for the “Commissioner for Children and Young People Participate” Award, an award which acknowledged the contributions of young people under 18 to their community. Joanna’s contributions, both to the Belridge Community as a member of Student Council, and her work outside of school with Netball Clubs, along with writing and performing original poetry, (which examines issues of equality and domestic abuse) put her in some great company for the night. While she didn’t win the award, she was incredibly supportive of the young lady who did and of all other nominees, and proud to have just been a finalist. At the conclusion of the evening, this mature young woman walked away with the desire to get more involved in the community and wider society, determined to make a difference wherever life takes her. I was privileged enough to attend the Gala and "it was truly amazing to see her in this company and see her approach to life beyond Belridge – it is safe to say we will see great things of her in the future." On behalf of the whole Belridge Community, congratulations Joanna on your success!

Movie Event
On 17 November a Belridge group was lucky enough to attend the screening of Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, the newest film set in the wizarding world created by J.K. Rowling. For many of us it was an exciting time to revisit the much beloved world, even without Harry and his friends. While the film was considered by all in attendance to be a great success, by attending the event, these individuals helped us to raise $121 – funds which will be used next year to provide more entries into Cancer Council’s “Book-in-a-Day” event and support other events such as the MS Readathon and the Smith Family Foundation during Book Week. Thank you to all those who came and got involved on the night – your support is greatly appreciated!

Book-in-a-Day: Results
Earlier in the year, the Year 12 Literature class took part in the “Write-a-book-in-a-day” challenge run by the Kids’ Cancer Project and created a book entitled “This is Australia!”, a comedic look at a young babysitter who finds herself as part of a reality TV show where she has to protect a koala in the middle of the Simpson Desert.

I am very proud to say that not only were they recognized for their high levels of fundraising, but that they were one of the top ten senior teams in WA! This is a fantastic accomplishment, especially for our first year, and I know the students were very proud of what they had done. Congratulations to the team and a final thank you to those who supported us in this endeavour.

MS Readathon
In Term 3 students across different years registered to take part in the MS Readathon, to bring awareness and funds to MS Australia. The students involved really enjoyed themselves and the opportunity to read for such a great cause, most of them saying they’re keen to get involved again next year and really push themselves to fundraise a little more (this year we raised $100). Thank you to everyone who supported these great young people in getting involved in this fantastic event.
**Reading Club**
This year was the first for the Belridge Reading Club and we welcomed members from Years 8, 11 and 12 who met regularly to discuss books and take part in challenges. It was really fantastic to see the atmosphere of the Club grow and develop over the year as conversations moved from being mostly book dominated to just general conversations about lives as everyone got to know each other.

We spent the year looking at different elements of books, reading series, books which inspired movies, books with awesome covers and just the things we want to read. Students were lucky enough to win prize packs donated by Ocean Keys Book Exchange and also get involved in collecting second hand books to help build a library in Africa. But, I think the most important thing was the relationships that were formed. Whether reading or catching up with others, every student who came along was welcomed and became part of our community – students enjoyed the space so much that there were frequently members there on our non-“official” meeting days!

I’m very pleased with how the club has taken off for its first year and am looking forward to running Reading Club again next year and welcoming new members. Keep your eyes open for time and place!

**Literacy Committee - A Year in Review**
Throughout the year the Literacy Committee, lead by our fearless leader Alicia Holliday, worked to bring in different approaches to develop literacy across the school. With a quick re-visit of Word Walls, we worked to roll out MLO’s, CUPS and Venn Diagrams; both of these were picked up quickly by staff and were soon seen throughout the school!

Over the year students have been gaining practice in both of these strategies with staff using them across different subject areas in different ways to really maximize student achievement and development.

One of the other major achievements was the creation of the Belridge Whole School Literacy Connect Community. Not only is every Belridge Staff member part of this community, but we have even gained members from other schools! This fantastic forum has allowed staff to share how they are using the different strategies, comment and ask questions about how it’s being used. It’s been great to see staff outside the committee itself getting involved in sharing their use of the strategies and having discussions about them.

It’s been a great year for the committee and we’re looking forward to not only re-visiting our current strategies, but adding a few more for next year, and making Literacy a continued priority within Belridge.

**LISA SOLOWAY**
English Teacher

---

**C8 - Year 8 Camp 2017**

I am very excited to announce that preparations are currently underway for ‘C8 Camp’ 2017, to which all Belridge Year 8 students will be invited next year.

The concept of ‘C8’ is to provide a range of challenges and experiential learning activities that maximise students’ potential for success as learners and also as happy, resilient, socially aware members of the community. The ‘C’ in ‘C8’ is symbolic of a range of qualities and traits that will be fostered throughout the camp, such as ‘commitment’, ‘connection’, ‘communication’, and ‘courage’, to name a few.

The camp will be held over 3 days and 2 nights at the Nanga Bush Camp in Dwellingup, in the last week of Term 2. The expected cost will be approximately $250 per student. Further details to come early next year.

**ALICIA HOLLIDAY**
Year Coordinator
During Term 4 our Year 8 class has been studying Statistics and Probability. In the process, data has been collected using a range of materials including tape measures, metre rulers, chopsticks, jelly beans, ping pong balls, tennis balls, straws and Minties. The results for 8.1 Maths are revealed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Popular Phone</th>
<th>iPhone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Maximum</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height (cm)</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arm Span (cm)</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longest Mintie string (cm)</td>
<td>109.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time spent balancing a ping pong ball using only a straw (seconds)</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of jellybeans that can be collected using only chopsticks</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of bounces of a tennis ball within 1 minute time frame</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results varied widely within the class. Students discussed the various factors that may influence the accuracy of data. The number of available jelly beans became progressively less during the duration of the activity! Inaccurate measurement of height and arm span may have produced some unusual lengths though the range of heights in our class appears reasonable . The ability to tear a lolly wrapper was also suggested as a contributing factor.

After data was collected, students began to calculate various statistics. They were able to identify the effect of outliers on the mean and median of data sets.

EDNA PIVETTA
Mathematics Teacher
What’s new? Belridge SC mobile phone app!

Download today ... it’s free!

This app will give parents and friends the opportunity to be kept informed of the college’s activities through, notifications, events and newsletters. Download it today to take advantage of these wonderful features.

If you have any concerns in respect of your child’s usage of information technology or issues arising please do not hesitate to contact me at the school either by email to

Email: elizabeth.cassidy@education.wa.edu.au
Tel: 9408 8000

ELIZABETH CASSIDY
Head of Information Technology
HELP LOOK AFTER OUR SCHOOL
IF YOU SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS, PLEASE CALL:-

School Watch Security
1800 177 777
or
Police 131 444

STEaM Student Fun Holiday Program during 9-17 January 2017

Are you currently in Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 or 12 and love building and solving authentic problems with digital technology? Would you like to start and finish a digital STEaM project during the school holidays and keep it to showcase for a STEaM competition in 2017?

Over a two week period during the school holidays, you have an opportunity to explore and learn any of the following exciting STEaM topics:

- Coding Games with Java (1 day)
- Building and Racing Drones (1 day)
- Digital Photography (2 days)
- Build your own website (5 days)
- Coding with Python 1 (5 days)
- Coding with Python 11 (5 days)
- Digital Music (5 days)
- Exploring with Arduino (5 days)
- Python Coding with Electronics in Minecraft (5 days)

These engaging STEaM courses are run by experienced Fire Tech Camp Australia instructors in collaboration with Edith Cowan University, Australian Computer Society, Coder Dojo and Coding Kingdom. Our STEaM holiday event also offers additional age appropriate courses for the younger primary sibling.

For any questions, please email info@firetechcamp.com.au or telephone 1300 347 383. Please book online at http://www.firetechcamp.com.au/school-holiday-courses and enter coupon code JAN1522 to receive a 15% discount.
Please keep in touch ….

To enable us to keep you up to date with newsletters, important communications and events please ensure that the school has your most recent email address and contact information. You can do this by updating your details via email to:

school@belridgecollege.wa.edu.au

Please state your child’s name and year group in the subject heading

or alternatively telephone the school office on 9408 8000

Student Absence Line:
Tel: 9408 8063 - Years 7, 8 and 9 (Middle School)
Tel: 9408 8058 - Years 10, 11 and 12 (Senior School)
SMS: 0400 20924

or

You can also contact us or notify of absences quickly and conveniently via the Belridge Secondary College app
DOWNLOAD TODAY - FREE OF CHARGE

Email: school@belridgecollege.wa.edu.au
School Board: schoolboard@belridgecollege.wa.edu.au
Website: www.belridgecollege.wa.edu.au

College Board:
Should you have any suggestions, issues or questions you wish to raise with the Board please contact

Nicola Harris on 9408 8002 or
Email: schoolboard@belridgecollege.wa.edu.au
Coping with Grief at Christmas

Christmas is a time of mixed feelings for those who are missing someone they love. As we gather with family and friends, the absence of a loved one may be felt even more intensely. Whether it’s a parent or partner who has left the family or a loved one who has died, you may be left feeling out of step with the jolliness of the tinsel and carols.

It is especially important at this time to take care of yourself and those around you who have also experienced significant loss or change. While some people keep busy to distract themselves, others prefer to withdraw to their memories and reflections; there is no right or wrong way to act or feel.

It’s hard to predict how you’ll be feeling, so put some safeguards into place

- Don’t make any big decisions over Christmas time. You will probably be feeling enough stress and distraction, and there is no need to add to it. If possible, wait until the New Year.
- Make plans to be around people who you trust and who understand that you might not be feeling very “jolly”. Let them know that you may actually prefer to be alone sometimes, and they should not be offended if this is the case.
- Give yourself some time to think about the person you are missing. Listen to music, look at pictures, cry if you feel you want or need to. This may mean you are less likely to be overwhelmed or caught off guard by Christmas ‘triggers’.
- If a family has been split through divorce or separation, Christmas day may become a logistic struggle for children who now have two places to be. Make this easier for them by including them in plans ahead of time and making the transition as smooth as possible, and do your best to avoid competition over time spent with children or size and expense of gifts.

Here are some things that might help you manage your grief feelings over Christmas

- Do something to remember the person you are missing …
  - Play their favourite music.
  - Go to a place they loved or do something you used to do together.
  - Write them a Christmas card.
  - Share memories and stories with others who loved them too.
  - If children are missing the person too, involve them and find out how they would like to remember their loved one.
- Give yourself permission to do less. People will understand if you do not get the Christmas letter out, if you do not bake cookies for everyone or if you miss a few parties. The most important thing is taking care of yourself and those close to you.
- Accept help. If you feel as though you are not coping well, reach out to people you trust and say yes to offers of support or company.
- Let yourself have fun. If you are feeling happy, go with it - it does not mean that you are forgetting or forsaking the person who is not there.

New Year

With Christmas comes New Year, a milestone which prompts reflection upon the past and plans for the future. Memories may bring both pain and happiness, while thoughts of the future may bring reminders of lost dreams as well as hope. Be gentle with yourself at this time, too.