Welcome everyone to the 2016 college year. We have had a great start to the year with students excited to be at NCAT. We have many new students and I extend a special welcome to them and their families.

The Year 10 Breakfast was a great success with parents and students getting to know each other and the NCAT staff. The various Orientation Programs organised for the other students also went well, as old and new students met each other and settled into the college.

We have some staff changes. Michelle Andrews is Assistant Principal and Senior School Leader. Ian Allan, the other Assistant Principal, is on leave until Term 2. We welcome Laura Bryan, the new Drama & Media teacher and Siang Lim, the new Maths/Science teacher. Siang has taken over Joe Castellarin’s position as Joe will retire at the end of Term 1.

I want to congratulate last year’s Year 12 students. We had the largest group of students gaining entry to University ever and all students who applied for tertiary entry and followed VTAC’s process gained entry to tertiary studies. Many students also gained apprenticeships and employment and we are delighted that once again every Certificate IV Musical Instrument Making & Repair student has found work.

This first newsletter will be the only one that will be printed and mailed home to families. After this, all newsletters will be posted online via Compass, our online communication system as will other news items and notices to parents.

COMPASS Online Management and Communication System
The college communicates with parents and students via an online management system called “Compass”. The system has both a parent and student portal and provides information regarding student attendance, progress and semester reports, work requirements, resources, newsletters and news items, notices to parents and students. It also has the capacity to email teachers directly. New students and parents may already be familiar with this system as it has been adopted by a number of schools.

To access it you must have a valid email address. All new parents have been sent a letter with a log in and password that explains Compass and how to access it. We would like every parent to check their contact details and update these if there are any changes. You can access Compass directly by going to https://ncat.vic.idlf.com.au or from the college website.

It is important that parents and students regularly check the portal. If you have any problems accessing your account, or need a new login and password, please don’t hesitate to contact Anita in the office. She will talk you through the process.

Reporting on Student Progress
The college provides five progress reports per year as well as first semester and second semester reports. These are published on Compass. The first will be available on 26th February; the second progress report will be available on 21st March. This will be followed by Year 10-12 Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences on 22nd March which will take place from 12.30pm-7.30pm. Information on how we rate student work is provided in this newsletter.

College Dress Code – Important notice
We have been concerned with the number of students breaching the dress code. A condition of enrolment at NCAT is that students abide by the college dress code. Please note that students cannot wear tops with spaghetti string straps or halter neck tops, bare shoulders, singlet tops, tops with the back cut away or tops that are low cut. Any form of thongs are banned for occupational health and safety reasons. After a first warning students will be sent home to change if they breach the dress code. All Technology students must wear the full uniform and safety gear required for their area.

I hope everyone works hard, takes advantage of the opportunities provided by the college and has a very successful year. I look forward to getting to know all the new students and working with them, the teachers and the Student Leaders to make this a happy, challenging, rewarding and great year for everyone.

Raffaela Galati-Brown
Principal
2016 STAFF LIST

Principal  Raffaela Galati-Brown

Assistant Principals  Ian Allan, Michelle Andrews

Coordinators
Senior School Leader  Michelle Andrews
10A/VCAL General  Nadia Tomarchio
Student Coordinator  Nick Di Fabio
VCE  Robbie Grant
VCAL  Alex Tsentalidis
Pre-App  Nick Di Fabio
Folio/Create  Tracy Paterson/Neil Davis
Folio/Create Student Support  Belinda Janetzki
PIC  Mick Sierianni
Fitness  Jamie Lyngcoln
Music  Dr Peter Myers
Instrument Making & Repair  Bon Nardella
Dance  Lee-Anne Di Stefano
VCAL Arts  Kylie O’Malley
Technology Executive Manager  Daniel Knott
Technology Programs Leader  Anthony Gasson
VET RTO Manager  Louise Terranova
VET Coordinator  Mauricio Diaz-Chavarro
Careers & Pathways  Ian McKey
Marketing  Mark Russell
Youth Support Officer  Leanne Peros

Subject Teachers
Maths/Science  Carmelina Rainone, Siang Lim
Drama/Media  Laura Bryan
English  Michelle Andrews, Robbie Grant, Kate Dermody
VCAL Literacy  Cate Button, Kate Dermody, Lee-Anne Di Stefano
Sport & Rec  Jamie Lyngcoln
H&HD  Megan O’Donnell
Multi Media/IT  Craig Illman, Marcus Newman
Instrument  Bon Nardella, Craig Illman,
Making  Ben Stewart, Mark Russell
Psychology  Robbie Grant, Megan O’Donnell
Visual Art  Kylie O’Malley, Rachel O’Connor,
Sonia Baroudi
Folio Prep  Neil Davis, Ian McKey, Mark Russell,
Belinda Janetzki, Tracy Paterson,
Anne Connors, Sue Durham,
Photo Imaging  (PIC)  Mick Sirianni, Irene Alessandro, Stuart,
Murdock, Marcus Newman, Marina Lamari
Technology  Anthony Gasson, Nick Di Fabio, Nick
Frewen, Carlos Rosales, Michael
Stewart, Mark Risicato, Tony Willie,
Mark Fioravanti, Stephen Lewis,
Steve Beckwith, Frank Maiorino, Ken
McLeish
Music  Peter Myers, Shelley Scown, Matt
Rodd, Bon Nardella, Zac Lister,
Conrad Henderson, Rachel Sztanski,
Rebecca Barnard, Daniel Mizzi,

Home Group Teachers
10A  Nadia Tomarchio/Laura Bryan
10T  Mark Risicato/Siang Lim
11B  Carmelina Rainone
11G  Kate Dermody
11/12A  Kylie O’Malley
12F  Jamie Lyngcoln
12B  Michelle Andrews
12G  Robbie Grant
11/12M  Matt Rodd/Shelley Scown
VCL General  Cate Button
Pre-App students  Contacts:  Nick Di Fabio, Anthony Gasson
or Daniel Knott

Subject Teachers
Maths/Science  Carmelina Rainone, Siang Lim
Drama/Media  Laura Bryan
English  Michelle Andrews, Robbie Grant, Kate Dermody
VCAL Literacy  Cate Button, Kate Dermody, Lee-Anne Di Stefano
Sport & Rec  Jamie Lyngcoln
H&HD  Megan O’Donnell
Multi Media/IT  Craig Illman, Marcus Newman
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Frewen, Carlos Rosales, Michael
Stewart, Mark Risicato, Tony Willie,
Mark Fioravanti, Stephen Lewis,
Steve Beckwith, Frank Maiorino, Ken
McLeish
Music  Peter Myers, Shelley Scown, Matt
Rodd, Bon Nardella, Zac Lister,
Conrad Henderson, Rachel Sztanski,
Rebecca Barnard, Daniel Mizzi,

Administration
Business Manager  MaryAnn Corkhill
Assistant Bus Manager  Stacey Holmes
General office  Anita Redmond
PIC Office  Xiomara Marzuki

Calendar of coming events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd March</td>
<td>Year 10 &amp; Year 11 VCE ELEVATE Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th March</td>
<td>School Council Nominations close</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th March</td>
<td>LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Students do not attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>School Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences 12.00pm – 7.30pm – no classes for Years 10-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Fun Walk/Run periods 5 &amp; 6 - Term 1 Ends</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Forward Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11th April</td>
<td>Term 2 Starts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th April</td>
<td>ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Students do not attend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8th May</td>
<td>Age Careers Expo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th May</td>
<td>Year 10 Information Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th May</td>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th June</td>
<td>DANCE Concert</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome To Our Year 10 Students

The College year began for the Year 10s on Thursday 28th February with a very successful Breakfast and Orientation Day. It was wonderful to be able to gather together as a school community to warmly welcome our Year 10 students and their families. NCAT encourages and supports families to work together in partnership with staff in their child's educational journey. The morning provided staff the opportunity to begin this very important communication process.

Michelle Andrews
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/SENIOR SCHOOL LEADER

Student Leadership at NCAT

NCAT strongly supports and encourages student voice and contribution to the future direction of the College. Interested students attended a lunchtime information session on Thursday 18th February and nominations for student leadership positions closed on Friday 19th February 2016.

I would like to thank and congratulate all the 2015 Student Leaders, for their contribution to the life of the College and their commitment and professionalism in fulfilling the role of student leaders last year.

Nominees will present a 2-3 minute speech in designated classes to their peers commencing on Tuesday 23rd February. There are a total of thirteen leadership positions to be filled in the student leadership group as well as one class representative per form group in 10Arts, 10Technology, 11/12 General VCAL, VCAL Music, VCAL Arts, VCAL Fitness and the Pre-Apprenticeship Program.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to either speak to me or Leanne Peros, the Youth Worker. Leaders must commit to attend regular meetings and participate in leadership activities such as the Darebin Youth Summit, Vic SRC Congress and the Halogen Youth Leadership Conference.

Nadia Tomarchio
STUDENT LEADERSHIP COORDINATOR
HOMEWORK

VCE Students in years 10-12 should be completing one to three hours of homework each weekday and up to 6 hours on weekends and during peak VCE times (DE&T Homework guidelines www.education.vic.gov.au). VCAL students should also ensure that they keep up to date and revise work.

NCAT has a quiet study room (A10) available for students to use during study periods, break times, before and after school until 5.00pm each day.

PAYMENT OF CHARGES

The College requires that all material charges are paid. Payments can be made at the general office, via the phone, BPAY or via Direct Deposit. If you are paying via Direct Deposit please use the students ID code as the transaction detail to the College, e.g. ABC0001. If you are unable to make full payment, please ring to arrange a payment plan.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND

A reminder to eligible parents/guardians to apply for the CSEF at the general office. For more information see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef or ring the College.

NCAT A NON-SMOKING SITE

This is a reminder that the College environment is strictly a non-smoking zone. This is in compliance with both Government and College rules and ALL people are required to adhere to this ruling.

PIC News for 2016

We are expecting a huge year for the photographic imaging courses following the successes of last year.

Luke Garret from the 2015 Diploma in Photo Imaging had an image chosen by the Guardian newspaper as one of the top 20 photographs of 2015 (see here image and link).


Tertiary selections were high with 100% of our students gaining access to a course they had applied to. One student, André Franco, was offered places at all three colleges he applied for.

Typically university places for photography are highly contested due to their small intake and high demand so congratulations go to all the students who were so successful with their photographic folios produced during the year - and to our talented PIC teaching staff!

Stuart Murdoch
PHOTO IMAGING COLLEGE @ NCAT
Welcome dance students and parents to the 2016 school year, again a busy year ahead for us. Coming up on 25th February we have an excursion to Top Class showcasing the best of 2015 VCE and VET dance solos. ICE crews are already practising for the upcoming 2016 UDO Australian National Street Dance Championships on Saturday 28th May. We are also rehearsing for the mid-year concert on Wednesday 15th June at the Darebin Arts Centre.

I have recently come back from maternity leave; I would like to formally welcome Brianna Metcalf who is job sharing with me, teaching the Year 10 and VCE classes. I would like to report on last year’s results from the UDO Dance competition, where one of the NCAT ICE crews won an award for the most inspiring crew. Alex Urbonas won best male dancer and Mark Sgarlata won second place in the solo freestyle section. Alex and Mark also received scholarships to full time dance courses this year. We congratulate them and wish them well in their further studies. Jemma Craig was accepted into a full-time dance course this year continuing her passion for choreography and teaching.

Shown here are some pictures from last year’s concert. They are so lovely even if a bit late!! We look forward to seeing parents at our upcoming events.

Lee-Anne Di Stefano
DANCE COORDINATOR
Music at NCAT

Instrumental Music Lessons

Instrumental music lessons are now showing on students’ Compass timetables. Consequently, students will receive periodic Progress Reports and end-of-semester reports. All Year 11 and 12 VCE music students and all Certificate IV Music students are required to attend weekly instrumental music lessons and at least one ensemble rehearsal. The instrumental music staff and their days of attendance are listed below.

- Conrad Henderson – bass guitar & guitar – Mondays and Tuesdays
- Matt Rodd – guitar
- Bon Nardella – guitar
- Rachel Sztanski – voice
- Daniel Mizzi – drums & keyboard – Mondays and Fridays
- Peter Myers – brass instruments

Invitation to Join Ensembles - Extra Curricular Activity

The Music Department at NCAT has a number of ensembles that rehearse at lunchtimes. All NCAT staff and students are welcome to come along and participate in these ensembles.

The Vocal Ensemble rehearses Thursday lunchtime in room B3 under the direction of Rachel Sztanski. This ensemble is compulsory for all students taking vocal lessons at NCAT. Being a part of this ensemble, you will gain insight into technique and strategies for voice including vocal warm-up, tone-colour development, breath management and dynamic control. Repertoire includes a variety of musical styles throughout the year including soul/rhythm and blues, pop, musical theatre and world music. All NCAT students and staff are welcome to join the Vocal Ensemble. If you are interested, please attend the next rehearsal.

The Jazz Band rehearses Monday lunchtime in room B3. The Jazz Band plays jazz standards, Latin jazz and the occasional Blues tune. The band has staff members Daniel Mizzi on piano, Conrad Henderson as director and occasionally on bass, and Peter Myers on trumpet. This band comprises mainly senior students and provides lots of opportunities for them to polish their improvisation skills. Membership of the jazz band is by audition. If you are interested in joining come along to the next rehearsal or contact Dr Peter Myers.

The Ukulele Ensemble is directed by Zac Lister and Mark Russell and rehearses Thursday lunchtime in room B5. No prior experience is required to join this group and instruments are provided. The ensemble features our giant bass ukulele, which always draws attention at public performances.

The Afro/Latin Percussion Ensemble rehearses Tuesday lunchtime in room B3 under the direction of Matt Rodd. All students and staff are welcome to join this ensemble. Attendance is compulsory for students taking drum lessons at the College. NCAT has a great collection of djembe, African drums and other percussion instruments that are used in this ensemble. This group will play traditional African music as well as Latin rhythm section music that can combine with the Jazz Band for performances. The ensemble is currently working on the Candombe Street rhythms of Uruguay.

Dr Peter Myers
HEAD OF MUSIC
Visual Arts Excursion Week

2016 Visual Arts students had only a week to settle into the College before we whisked them out to the city for Excursion Week. Activities were planned to help connect the student group and inspire a vibrant, creative and informed culture amongst our very talented students.

Students spent all of Monday at the NGV with an introduction to the gallery (including thrilling tales of forgery and theft) and highlights from the permanent collection; an Artwork scavenger hunt; and drawing studies from some of the old masters. On Tuesday we descended upon the Melbourne Zoo and learnt some gestural drawing techniques for sketching the creatures we found there: we especially enjoyed close encounters with the cheeky lemurs who were clearly wondering what we were up to. We visited ACCA on Thursday morning to view their exhibition The Biography of Things and followed this with a practical workshop. In the afternoon we dropped in to RMIT Fine Art (Sculpture) Department and toured the facilities, finding out more about students’ post-secondary opportunities. To finish up with a bang on Friday we explored all over Brunswick Street with Melbourne Street Art Tours, discovering the secrets of Fitzroy’s incredible Street Art scene and finally stopped for pizzas at Bimbo Deluxe.

By the end of the week, the students were exhausted, inspired and aching to get back to the studio to start putting some of their new ideas into practice. They have all returned with new perspectives on Visual Art: what it is, what it could be, what it means to each of them.

Congratulations and thank you to our wonderful student group for their enthusiasm, energy and willingness to try new things! We can’t wait to see what you will bring to the Visual Arts in 2016.

Kylie O’Malley & Sonia Baroudi
NCAT ART

NCAT Art Competition

The Integrated Visual Arts group is running an Art competition, open to all members of the school community including students, family members and staff of NCAT.

The competition is called ‘INBOX’ and entrants will pay a small fee to receive a box 30cm x 30cm as the base for their submission. How you use the box is entirely open to your creative interpretation.

We ask for expressions of interest to be emailed to the college: ncat@edumail.vic.gov.au
Get in quickly, boxes are limited!!

Rachel O’Connor
ART DEPARTMENT
VCE Media *Top Screen* Excursion

On Thursday 18th February, the combined Year 11 /12 Media class, along with our teacher Laura, and the Assistant Principal Michelle, attended the opening night of *Top Screen* at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image. *Top Screen* is one of the events in the VCE Season of Excellence, which presents some of the A+ scoring products created by 2015 Year 12 students.

We were treated to Choc Top ice-creams and viewed ten different films, ranging from comedies, dramas, documentaries and even a propaganda film. After all the films had been screened, a panel of five of the filmmakers discussed their production, explaining to the audience what they did in order to achieve such high marks. They then opened up for questions which were very helpful for some of our inquisitive students.

The evening was a very successful one, with each student coming away with high hopes, new goals and an abundant amount of inspiration.

*James Howe - 12G*

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**Calling all Students Interested in Drama & Media**

*Extra Curricular Activity*

Every **Thursday at lunch time** in the Media room (B10) there will be Media activities such as: learning how to use programs (e.g. Photoshop, Premiere etc), quizzes, watching/critiquing/enjoying films and TV shows, developing videos, magazines, photography skills, posters and radio segment.

Every **Friday at lunch time** in the Drama room (B7), there will be theatre sports, games, opportunities to develop public speaking skills and script writing.

You DON’T need to be studying either of these subjects to come along – ALL Tech and Art students are welcome.

*Laura Bryan*

*Drama & Media Coordinator*

*10A Form Teacher*
VCAL Sport – *Extra Curricular Activity*

**Inaugural Fun Walk/Fun Run Raising Money for The Royal Children’s Hospital**

NCAT’S VCAL students are hosting a whole school fun walk / fun run on Thursday 24th March (last day of term).

This event starts after lunch, running (pun intended) during periods 5 and 6. Starting at 1:30pm from the front of the sports hall at 1:30pm, staff, students and interested parents are invited to participate in a fun, group warm-up before running their way around the NCAT internal ring road for the next hour or so. NCAT’s talented music students will play at four entertainment spots around the track for the enjoyment of all participants.

The dress theme is to wear your favourite sports team’s colours to help kick off the 2016 AFL season. This whole school student led, staff supported event will celebrate the teaching and learning of Term 1 as a whole school. Enclosed is an envelope to help NCAT raise funds for the Good Friday Appeal of the Royal Children’s Hospital. Your donation will contribute towards helping children and their families in their time of need. If you wish to donate please return your envelope with a tax-deductible donation of $2 or more to the general office by Friday 18th March. A receipt can be issues for tax purposes if required.

We will publish event photographs taken by our talented PIC photography students in the April newsletter.

**Student Led Lunch Time Sporting Events - GET INVOLVED!!**

NCAT VCAL Sport students would like to remind students from across the college that the Sports Hall hosts student led lunch time basketball training and social table tennis (Tuesdays 1pm - 1:30pm) and futsal training and social fitness classes (Thursdays 1pm - 1:30pm). These sessions have kicked off for the 2016 year with Tane Buchanan-Webb, Luke Carolan-Gibbs, Jack Burrows, Christian Sardo and Maegan Fletcher capably running the basketball sessions.

Meanwhile, Andre Costa-Taveres and Caillan Watt run a high energy futsal game for those interested in indoor soccer. Erin Rusic, Taylor Smit and Chloe Thomson are keen to commence their fitness training circuit for students looking to develop or maintain their fitness levels.

All students and staff are invited to come along and try these sessions. Sports shoes are compulsory. Drink bottle and towel recommended. GET INVOLVED!

*Jamie Lyngcoln*

**SPORT, RECREATION AND FITNESS DEPARTMENT**

**Maker Space Activity**

Each Thursday at lunchtime Anthony will be holding a maker space activity in the CNC room of the TTC. This will be open to any students from the school who would like to come and have a try at various activities ranging from CAD drawing and 3D printing to simple electronics, automation and programming (using LittleBits Electronics and Arduino).

Group size will be limited to ten students, and students are asked to have finished eating prior to entry. If you are interested please sign up at Anthony’s office; first in best dressed.

*Anthony Gasson*

**Technology Programs Manager**
ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING AT NCAT

To ensure that students and parents are aware of how students are assessed and graded at Years 10-12 we have provided the following guide so everyone is clear on the terms and processes used.

Progress Reports and indicators
Below are the five indicators used for NCAT Progress Reports. These indicators also appear on semester reports with the exception of “Up to Date with Work.”
The ratings used for each indicator are: Consistently or Usually or Sometimes or Rarely

1. Appropriate Behaviour
   Behaving in a manner that is appropriate to a learning environment: being respectful of others in words and actions; respecting the rights of others to work, learn, to feel comfortable and safe; cooperating with others; listening; participating.

2. Classwork
   Using class time effectively to complete the tasks set for the class; participating in class activities such as discussions, group work.

3. Organisation
   Punctuality; bringing required equipment/texts, classwork and homework to class; keeping hand-outs and work organized; maintaining work.

4. Home learning
   Doing set homework, coursework, revision, home study tasks, practice of skills.

5. Up to date with work
   Regular communication with teachers and an awareness of which learning tasks are due and when and submitting them on time. It is a student’s responsibility to negotiate extensions for overdue work and submit is as soon as possible.

All reports will be available to students and parents on COMPASS. The first of five Progress Reports that parents and students will receive over 2016 will be published on COMPASS on 26th February.

VCE AND VCAL
Both VCE and VCAL subject learning outcomes are assessed using the following scale:
S – Satisfactory    N: Not Satisfactory
If one outcome is assessed as N, then the overall result for a unit is N. However, students are always given an opportunity to redeem an unsatisfactory outcome result.

VCE Year 11 Assessment
All School Assessed Coursework (SACs) for VCE unit 1&2 -Year 11 subjects are graded A+ to E as shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100-84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>83-75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>74-68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>67-61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>60-53%</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>32-23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E+</td>
<td>22-17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>16-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UG</td>
<td>Below 10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades will be indicated on SACs when returned to students and will also be reported on Year 11 units 1&2 semester reports along with Area of Study outcome results that are shown as 'S' – satisfactory or 'N' – not satisfactory.

Year 12 VCE Assessment
VCE Year 12 Unit 3&4 SACs and SATs (School Assessed Tasks) students will be provided with the ratings below. They do not receive letter grades. This is because at Units 3/4 level, grades assigned by subject teachers in schools are subject to change as a result of VCAA statistical moderation and GAT results.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VH (very high)</td>
<td>H (high)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M (medium)</td>
<td>L (low)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VL (very low)</td>
<td>UG (ungraded)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 10: Requirements for satisfactory completion of a subject
To pass a subject and thus achieve an overall S (satisfactory) a student must achieve:

1. USUALLY or CONSISTENTLY for the Classwork indicator which is part of the Work Habits section of semester reports.

2. An S (satisfactory) for 3 out of 4 Assessment Tasks.
   There will be a minimum of 4 Assessment Tasks for most year 10 subjects.
   Students must pass at least 3 of the 4 Assessment Tasks (one of the assessment tasks is the exam).
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2016 – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines.

Who is on the school council?
There are three categories of membership:

⇒ A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category.

⇒ A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

⇒ Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do if you wish to stand for election?
There is a nomination form included as part of this newsletter. Fill it in and send it to the college by the 4pm on the 10th March.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Contact Raffaela Galati-Brown, Principal, on Tel 9478 1333 for further information.

SNAP
I Belong 2016

I Belong is RMIT’s dynamic approach to inspiring and building tertiary engagement with secondary students.

We invite Year 11 and 12 students to visit RMIT’s City campus and discover tools and strategies to support your preparation and transition to tertiary education.

What will the seminar cover?
This two-hour workshop, held during the school holidays, will assist current VCE students to maximise your memory and manage your time. It is designed to help you develop strategies to approach your exams and assessments with confidence.

Topics will include:

⇒ procrastination: what it is and how to avoid it
⇒ techniques of effective reading; including scanning, skimming and note-taking
⇒ mind maps for active revision.

Presenters on the day will be:
⇒ Judy Maxwell, RMIT Study and Learning Centre
⇒ Lyndon Medina, RMIT Counselling Services.

Further information about these topics, and other resources for successful study, can be found at RMIT’s Learning Lab:
http://emedia.rmit.edu.au/learninglab

How to register
⇒ visit https://rmitsnap.eventbrite.com.au
⇒ select the event/s you wish to register for
⇒ click ‘register’ and provide your details.

You will receive an email confirmation immediately after registering.

For more information: RMIT University
Email: SNAP@rmit.edu.au
Tel: +61 3 9925 3181
Schedule 4 - Notice of Election and Call for Nominations for School Council

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of the Northern College of the Arts and Technology.

Nomination forms are attached below and must be lodged by 4 pm on 11th March.

If a ballot is required, this will be prepared and distributed on 11th March and close on 18th March at 4pm.

Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2018</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted on COMPASS.

Raffaela Galati-Brown
PRINCIPAL

Schedule 5A - Self-nomination Form for Parent Member Category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Northern College of the Arts & Technology Council.

Name: ..............................................................................................................................................................................................

Residential address: ........................................................................................................................................................................
............................................................................................................................................................................................................Postcode: ........................................................

Home phone: .............................. Business phone:.............................. Mobile:..................................................

Email: .................................................................................................................................................................................................

I am the parent/guardian of ........................................................, who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

I am an employee of the DE&T Yes / No (please circle)

I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above named school council. I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate: ........................................... Date: .........../.........../....... 

You will be notified via email when your nomination has been received. Personal information on this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process and to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested, your nomination cannot be accepted. If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the Assistant Principal.