Third term is a critical term for all students. It’s most important that students attend all classes, do their homework and seek assistance if they are having difficulties. We want all students to be successful and I urge any student who is having difficulty with their work to see their relevant teacher or coordinator.

First Semester Reports available on COMPASS
First Semester reports for Years 10-12 students became available for viewing and downloading by parents and students as of 8th July. If you have any problems in accessing COMPASS, please don’t hesitate to call Stacey or Xiomara at the College for assistance. It is most important that you review your child’s progress with them. There will be a Progress Report provided in August.

Information Evening for Prospective 2016 students
On Tuesday 11th August, between 6pm-7.30pm, the College will be having a second Information Evening. The evening is targeted at Year 11, 12, Certificate IV and Diploma students considering enrolling at NCAT in 2015. Year 10 staff will also be available to speak to prospective Year 10 students.

If you are aware of students considering coming to NCAT in 2015 then please make them aware of the event and encourage them to come to the information evening. They will be able to meet teachers from the various programs, see students’ work and tour the facilities.

School Formal, Couch Fest and other major events
I have been most impressed with the leadership, skill and commitment demonstrated by students in organising student led events at NCAT.

The Year 11 VCE Business Management Team have organised a school formal for the 28th August at Plenty Ranges Art Centre. The students established themselves as a company and have been meticulous in their planning and organisation for this event.

Music, Art and Live Production students are involved in organising a major Music Fest called the Couch Fest for Saturday 5th September from 12pm-4pm. There will be numerous bands, food vans and an art exhibition. The whole school community is invited to this event, so I hope you can come, even if for a short time and enjoy the performances.

Work Experience
All Year 10s and General VCAL students are out this week and next week on their work experience placement. We wish them well with their experience. Quite a number are often offered part time work as a result of the placement.

Raffaela Galati-Brown
Principal
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) Applications

The CSEF can be used to pay for expenses relating to camps, sports and excursions. Examples of school organised programs for which the CSEF payment may be used include:

- School Camps/Trips
- Swimming & other school organised sporting programs
- Excursions
- Incursions

A payment of $225 for secondary school students will be paid to the college to eligible applicants. To be eligible you must be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or a Pensioner Concession Card. You may also apply if you are a temporary foster parent. A copy of the concession card will need to be provided with the CSEF application Form. NCAT is still accepting the applications up until September 1st 2015.

Please note, this payment cannot be put towards any Material Charges or the purchase of any equipment/uniforms.

Any further queries, please contact the office on 9478 1333.

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Stacey Holmes
Assistant Business Manager

SchoolMate App

Victoria’s Department of Education and Training has released a new app that is designed to help parents become more engaged in their child’s education.

SchoolMate provides parents with a roadmap to help aid their child’s learning at home and at school. It:

- shows parents what their child is learning in each subject, at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum
- provides parents with tips from helping their child in the best way possible
- suggests apps, books, events and activities related to each subject area and year level.

We think SchoolMate is a great resource for parents and we encourage you to visit the App Store or Google Play and download it today. If you would like further information please visit www.education.vic.gov.au.

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 July-7 Aug</td>
<td>Year 10 &amp; VCAL Work Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 August</td>
<td>Year 11-13 Information Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 August</td>
<td>Staff PD Day – <strong>Students NOT Required at School</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 August</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 August</td>
<td>NCAT Formal – Plenty Range Arts and Convention Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>Year 10 Immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 September</td>
<td>Couch Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 – 18 September</td>
<td>Pre-Apprentices Work Placement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NCAT Student Leadership Update – Supporting & Encouraging Student Voice

Student Leaders meet regularly on Thursday lunchtime in room A6. Just this week the student leaders finalised the planning and introduction of lunch time activities that they have been busily involved in organising. They are pleased to announce that the first student led activity will commence Monday 27th July 2015 in the media room to show ‘Friends’ (an American TV series) on the big screen. All interested students are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Student support in lunchtime activities will encourage the introduction of more student led activities.

Student Leaders also expressed to the College’s Administration the need for a new microwave in the student kitchenette area. As a result a new microwave is being purchased and this will be made available for student use. It is the responsibility of students that this area is kept clean.

On behalf of the College I would like to thank both Dave Serpell and Tiffany McIntrye for their attendance in representing NCAT at the Vic SRC Congress Conference during the Semester 1 holidays. Both students expressed their thanks and spoke highly of their experience. Participation in such an event was open to all elected school leaders. Congratulations to Dave Serpell for his appointment in the role of Executive Representative. Dave was chosen as one of only 15 representatives from 60 applicants. Thankyou to Leanne Peros, Youth Worker for her support in co-ordinating their application. This is the second year running that a student of NCAT has been elected in an executive representative position of which the College is incredibly proud. Last year Natalie Hill was appointed in the executive representative position with her term just finished. The College wants to acknowledge and thank her for her contribution in such a valued position that assists today’s youth with the opportunity to voice their opinions and suggestions.
NCAT student leaders were briefed on the details of the upcoming school formal to be held on Friday 28th August 2015, 6.30pm-11.30pm at Plenty Ranges Art and Convention Centre. The school formal is open to the following form groups 10A, 10T, 11B, 11G, 12A, 12B, 12G, 12F, 12M, 12N, 13M and the pre-apps. In order for the school formal to proceed as planned a minimum of 80 students need to have paid in full. So if you are interested in attending we require a payment to be made to the front office as soon as possible. Please refer to the attached poster for additional information. Formal information has also been posted on Compass and the College’s Facebook Page.

NCAT values student voice and suggestions. Please feel free to approach any of the student leaders should you have any question, concerns or suggestions.

Nadia Tomarchio
Student Leadership Coordinator

Certificate III in Music
“The $1,000 gig”

As a professional musician, you are occasionally asked to perform for a specific brief – a wedding, a funeral, a 50th birthday party etc – and you may LOATHE the requested repertoire. But if you get paid enough to buy that new amp you really want, it’s worth it, right? The catch is you have to do a polished, heartfelt and outstanding job of it. This week our Cert III’s performed their $1,000 gigs as part of their ‘Stagecraft’ unit. Their brief was quite literally, drawn from a hat and they were all pretty much horrified at what they had been given to research and perform. But the performances last Wednesday demonstrated the inner professional musician in our Cert III group. I wish I genuinely could have paid them their falsely promised fee. And very special thanks to Michael M. and Riley W. for allowing us to use their lighting set up and managing the atmosphere, and to Peter Anstee for the use of the drama room. It all contributed to the quality of the performances.

Shelley Scown
Music Department

Class Project

I am a student in 10T Engineering and in our class we have been given the task to make a lamp or night light within design limitations of the workshop tools. We can make our lamps with the laser cutter 3d printer or other tools that we are allowed to use. For me, I would like to be making a skateboard lamp with second hand skateboards, light bulbs and specially made trucks. As for everyone else, there are a lot of different ideas going around like airfilter lamp cars.

Benjamin Smith
10T Student
Melbourne Careers Expo 2015

NCAT has been providing a presence at the Expo for a few years now and watching the transformation has been most interesting. People used to come to the stand and ask “Who is NCAT and what do you do?” We still get a few saying that but increasingly we have people saying “We’ve heard about you, can you tell us more.”

There was a definite increase in the interest level relating to our Music and Performing Arts based subjects, including terrific interest in the Instrument Making program. Thankfully, I think we can put the increased interest down to the brilliant performances that our students gave.

The organisers of the Expo put NCAT as first priority when booking the stage acts, ringing us and asking how more spots we would like, because “in the past you guys have put on great acts.” Friday saw “Freak & the Fat Cats” on stage performing their Hendrix inspired songs. Sunday morning was kicked off by Yasin and Eimable performing a beautiful duo, combining Soul and Rap, followed by our dancers. As much as this was a wonderful opportunity for the dance troupes, it was a little scary for our new dance teacher Brianna, who had the students out performing. Thanks to her enthusiasm to get them involved and the pure dedication of the dancers; they did a brilliant job. Congratulations to all of the performers.

The last act involved Yasin, Michael & Shannon, combining Matt Corby, Mumford & Sons covers with some beautiful original material. They were so good; they had audience members wanting to meet them.

The Best comment of the Expo was “I think we’ve finally found what we’ve been looking for” from parents of a potential year 10 student.

A huge thanks to all of the staff & students who gave up their personal time over the weekend to make this possible. It’s your passion that is putting NCAT on the map!

Mark Russell
Marketing

Above: Meet Olivia, she can’t wait to start at NCAT as an Instrument Maker

Above: Our own Shelley Scown and the lovely Chealsea, who drives our talented Bass player Shannon to gigs

Left: Yasin & Eimable Duo set
**Semester One Reports**

Semester one reports are now available on Compass. If you have any issues accessing reports or would like a hard copy of your child's report, please contact the school on 9478 1333 and we will endeavour to assist you.

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**IDAHOT Celebration #bebetter**

IDAHOT is the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia. To celebrate this day, NCAT music students as well as students from the college diversity group, ‘NCAT Queer Space’, performed a number of songs in the cafe during lunchtime. The event signified the college’s acceptance of diversity, showing support for same sex attracted and gender diverse students, teachers and families.

NCAT is a proud member of Safe Schools Coalition, creating inclusive learning environments for same sex attracted, intersex and gender diverse students. IDAHO is marked on 17th May each year because on this day in 1990 the World Health Organisation (WHO) removed homosexuality from the International Classification of Diseases. As much as it is a day against violence and oppression, it is also a day for freedom, diversity and acceptance.

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**WORK EXPERIENCE YEAR 10 AND GENERAL VCAL**

Monday 27th July until Friday 7th August

Students will be participating in a 2-week Work Experience Program that will form part of their assessment. The College would like to wish all the students the best of luck during their placement. Students or Guardians must contact the school and their work placement if for any reason they are not able to attend work on a particular day. If you have any concerns or issues please contact the following staff: Nadia Tomarchio (Year 10A), Anthony Gasson (10T), Alex Tsenalidis (General VCAL), Ian McKey (Work Experience Co-ordinator).

No formal classes will be running for Year 10 and General VCAL during these 2-weeks. Almost all students have a work placement. Those not on work placement have been provided with work to do. The Study Centre will be open if they wish to come to school to work; however, this will not be supervised.
See the Person Not the Disability

On Friday 5th June the General VCAL class went to Highpoint Industries, a workplace run by Scope to give people with physical and mental disabilities a place of work, similar to how the Big Issue works but aimed at people with disabilities instead of people who are homeless. The General VCAL class went to Highpoint Industries as part of the ‘see the person not the disability’ which has 3 components, class room activities for 2 lessons that gave us awareness of the everyday challenges people with a disability face and how to effectively and sensitively interact and include people with disabilities, a guest speaker and the training program culminated with the general VCAL class going to Highpoint Industries to put our skills in inclusive behaviour and disability awareness into practice.

At Highpoint Industries we split into groups to work in different areas. Some of these areas were: printing expiry dates on tubes that were then passed on to be filled with Happy Lab jellybeans, removing labels and removing tape from boxes and other packaging, tying strings that will be used by Don Smallgoods and packing those small sugar packets that you get at cafes. While working at these different stations we were able to work alongside people who have disabilities such as: Cerebral Palsy, vision and hearing impairments, Downs Syndrome and Paraplegia etc.

As a class we all learnt that Highpoint Industries is just like any other industry and the people who work there are just like any other workers. They were AFL mad and had heaps of laughs together just like you would at any other workplace.

Morgan Beck
General VCAL Student

NCAT Fitness Students Help Make It Fun

On Thursday June 25th the NCAT Fitness students helped coordinate the annual fun run for Penders Park Primary School alongside VET Sport and Recreation teacher, Megan O’Donnell. Our students led sports activities including soccer, basketball and Australian Rules for around 200 students at Penders Park, Thornbury. The feedback from Penders Park Primary School was that our fitness students were professional and the P-6 students enjoyed the afternoon of sports activities, especially the fun run. "It was a good experience to work with younger children who are still developing their fundamental motor skills. The opportunity to be in a different environment and to coach children was a positive learning activity," according to NCAT fitness student Maegan Fletcher. "I was happy with my work that day as I encouraged every student that ran by" said NCAT fitness student, Josh Sulpizi. It was impressive to see Kerry Zhang and Sebastian Di Pasquale ably manage the masses of enthusiastic children playing soccer whilst James Nteris, Taylor Smit and Maegan Fletcher did the same for basketball.

Jamie Lyngcoln
Sport, Recreation and Fitness Department
Students Offered Apprenticeships

As a result of completing their work placements in June/July, three Automotive Pre-apprenticeship students; Peter Rerakis, Daniel Boyer, and Daniel Bushnell, have been offered Apprenticeships after they complete their courses. The respective employers were very impressed with the students. Congratulations and well done! Congratulations must also go to their automotive teacher Stephen Lewis.

EVENTS & LEADERSHIP CONSULTANCY
PRESENTS
NORTHERN COLLEGE OF THE
ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
2015 FORMAL

Years 10-12
Photographers provided

Full 2 course sit down meal
soft drinks provided

VENUE: Plenty Ranges Art Centre
DATE: 28th August 2015
COST: $80*
THEME: DRESS TO IMPRESS
TIME: 6:30pm-11:30pm
ENTERTAINMENT:
The Freak and the Fat Cats & Paul McWaters

*Lovely will be a payment plan

COUCH FEST

SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2015
29 ACTS ACROSS 4 STAGES
FEATURING
LOST IN MOMENTS O FURIOUS GEORGE O GRETTA RAY
FREAK AND THE FAT CATS O RUBY DREAMS
ANCHORS & ALIBIS

FOOD VANS O ART EXHIBITIONS
ENROLMENT STANDS AND COURSE INFORMATION
THE NORTHERN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY
62 MURRAY RD, PRESTON VIC 3072