Principal - Mr Bernard Beatty

Trade Training Centre
The Trade Training Centre is nearing completion and there may be a chance of partial handover of the Farm Workshop and/or the extensions to the D&T over the next couple of weeks. The piggery is ready for the fit out of the floors, pens, air-conditioning and automated feeding which is being completed by Stockyard Industries from Queensland. It is looking very good and hopefully students will be able to access these facilities shortly. One of the bonuses of the programme is that there has only been a minimal disruption to students throughout the building programme.

Year 12 Progress
Generally the Year 12 group is on task and on track which has been a pleasing aspect of the year. Year 12’s will be able to leave at the end of Term 3 provided all Class work and competencies in students respective Training Packages are completed. Mr Hooper has been working with students and staff to ensure that all students are aware of their obligations in completing the required work.

ATAR students will be able to stay at the College up until exams have finished. As the timetable for external exams does not come out until August and is set by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority we have no control over when exams will be timetabled and as a result cannot give a definitive finish date for ATAR students.

Students who have not completed Class work, D&T or Farm will be given the opportunity to complete outstanding work in Term 4, however attendance will be dependent on what they have outstanding: for example if it is just Class work that is outstanding and not D&T or Farm students will only be able to attend Monday to Wednesday. If it is D&T or Farm only then students can only attend on Thursday and Fridays with Wednesdays by negotiation. The reason for this is that we do not want students here on days that they have nothing to do as we will still have full Year 11 classes in progress.

The reason why this information is going out early is that we are giving students every opportunity to complete the required work in a timely fashion and allowing students to be able to attain employment at the earliest possible time.

Glenn Jakovich Cup
The footballers have had three good wins so far with accounting easily for Chisolm College, Helena College and John Forrest SHS. Best players have included David Smith, Braydan Curtin, Shane Wilmott, Matthew Flint, Damon Manuel, Tyren Baum, Hunter Onn, Mitch Loe and our goal kickers in Callum O’Neill and Trent Stevens. So far it has been a real team effort and the boys can be congratulated on their sportsmanship. It has also had the advantage that a lot of outstanding school work is now up to date!!

Kellerberrin Netball
Mrs Childs and Mrs McCart have been taking two netball teams up to Kellerberrin and an update of their achievements is in another section of the Newsletter. I would like to pass on our sincere thanks to both Mrs McCart and Mrs Childs for the effort they have put in to ensure the girls have the opportunity to play netball.

**COLLEGE BOARD - PUBLIC MEETING**

All parents are invited to the annual Public Meeting of the College Board on Friday 27th June at 2.00pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.
Residential - Mr Darryl McCart

North West Tour
Parents will have received information about this years North West Tour via email or post. If parents have any questions please feel free to contact me. Whilst students are on the tour parents can contact them on their mobile phones or by ringing the Residential Excursion mobile 0417 991 147 or my mobile 0438 971 346. In the event that we do not have reception, parents can ring the College in cases of emergency and the College will contact me on the satellite phone. Parents are reminded that students attending the North West Tour need to return to the College between 3.00 – 5.00pm on Sunday 20 July to pack vehicles. An evening meal will be provided on Sunday night. Students are also reminded that they must have their hair cut before the tour if it is needed, this includes rats tails, plaits and mullets.

Special Dinner
Well done to the Student Councillors that hosted the “Tradie wants a Lady” Special Dinner last week to raise funds for Tyson Knowles’ recovery. A total of $410.90 was raised.

Leave
Unfortunately some parents are still finding it difficult to submit leave forms by 11.00am on Wednesday mornings. We have been receiving them at lunch time on Friday and this is totally unacceptable because of the extra work it creates for Administration staff and Kitchen staff. Can we please remember the cut off time for leave forms.

Grooming/Dress Standard
A minority of students are continuing to return to the College when they desperately need a hair cut even though they have been home for the weekend and I seek parents support with this to ensure that their child is properly groomed.

I would also ask that parents visually check their childs uniform to see if any of it needs replacing as some of the Year 12s uniforms have seen better days.

Medication
Students and parents are reminded that medication cannot be kept in a students room and must be given to Residential staff so that it can be recorded and put in the medication cabinet in Linto dorm. With a number of students getting colds, parents are also reminded that students cannot bring cold and flu tablets to the College unless they are the non-drowsy type that do not contain pseudo-ephridrine - this is an Education Department requirement.
Design & Technology - Mr Stephen Prangnell

This period of the year is busy with most students commencing major projects. It’s time for the Year 12’s to start developing a sense of urgency with their work. Not enough students are utilising the workshop after hours to ensure they will be able to undertake some of the larger projects. It would be appreciated if parents could encourage their sons/daughters to make use of the extra time available to them. As mentioned previously an estimation of total costs will be given and materials can be purchased through the College.

Trade Tour

The Trade Tour was very successful this year. Students visited Westrac and Hofmann Engineering. On speaking to students who attended the tour they were very impressed with both sites. It has also impressed upon them the importance of their studies and the value of Work Experience in gaining employment once they finish at the College. Thank you to Alan Sutton and Keith Thompson for organizing the tour.

Furnishing

Most Year 11’s are nearing completion of their small cabinet and should now be planning major projects. Valuable workshop time will be wasted on preparation if students don’t plan their projects in advance. Please remember that big is not necessarily better when it comes to choosing a project and if parents would like to discuss projects with staff please contact us.

General Construction

Students have had a busy time in General Construction and have been primarily working on the Trampoline area redevelopment. They are working on the pavers at last and the first slabs for the chess board have also been laid. The area is starting to look very good. Students are developing valuable skills which could be utilised at home or in the workplace.

Engineering

Year 12 students are either completing exercises or commencing their major projects. I would strongly encourage those students yet to commence their projects to utilise the after hours workshop sessions to complete their set tasks. Any parents wishing to discuss their child’s progress or projects are welcome to contact staff.

Year 11 students are developing fusion welding skills through oxy-acetylene welding exercises, plus completing bench work and machining activities.

Automotives

Students are continuing to work through their competencies in Automotives. As skills develop they are encouraged to take on leadership and mentoring roles in the workshop. Most students are displaying a good work ethic and the Automotives teachers are pleased with progress at this stage of the year.
Surf Camp
The Surf Camp was on the 2 - 4 May at Lancelin. It was a very successful event. The students were fantastic and all enjoyed themselves immensely, as did the staff. Thank you to Christine Moore and Rhys Vandenburg for their help on the camp.
Everyone caught waves although some people got caught by waves. I don’t think there was anyone who didn’t manage to stand up albeit with differing degrees of success.
Some parents may find that they have a surfboard on their son/daughters Christmas list this year.
I have already booked the Camp for next year.

Census at Schools questionnaire
Our Year 12 students have been investigating how real-life statistics can be sorted and analysed. Every year students from across Australia are invited to complete the Census at Schools questionnaire written by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Their responses to a wide range of topics are recorded without identifying the student and the data can be downloaded.

This year we compared the responses from fifty Year 9-12 students living in the Wheatbelt with a similar group of students from Perth. Students were able to download the data directly from the website, produce graphs and tables and provide possible reasons for the results. Responses included distribution of birth months, eye colour, food preferences and participant gender.

Compare the results for birth months between Perth and Wheatbelt:
“From these results we see the pattern that the farmers in the Wheatbelt are very busy during the business end of the season with harvest so most babies are born previously to this time. In Perth most babies are born in the holiday break when they have time off instead of having to take work leave.”
“I think the Wheatbelt is so concentrated compared to Perth because they don’t really have time to have kids when they are seeding spraying or harvesting so they normally have kids when they on [a] break or plan it when they aren’t doing much work when the child is born.”
“Perth’s one is more spread out because they can have a child any time and it doesn’t really matter what time or date”.

Compare the gender of participants from Perth with the Wheatbelt:
“The female percentage is a bit higher in the country 42%, this could be due to them finding a boyfriend in the country and moving out to spend more time with them. Also in Perth the percentage is 40% and this could be due to country women moving somewhere else to find love.”

Mr Hovell
Class - Mrs Jane Beatty

Semester One Examinations
Congratulations to all the Year 11 and 12 ATAR students who have sat their first exams for the year. For some students this may have been the first time they have sat exams and it can be a stressful time! Making sure that you have a study program in place and a balanced approach to the week incorporating school, study, sport and social life is very important in helping things run smoothly for the examination weeks.

Semester One Reports
The teachers are all busy writing the Semester One reports. For the Year 12’s this report is particularly important as it is the last report received with a comment on it. Reports are an important document that may be asked for at a job interview, when applying for an apprenticeship or admission to TAFE or University.

Careers Advice
The Workforce Development Centre provides an outreach service to people in the Wheatbelt. Sonia Tutton is attending the College on a regular basis to provide students with free career advice/guidance. Any students who are interested in a 20 minute appointment need to see Mrs Beatty to book in a date and time. Appointments will be allocated to Year 12’s first and then Year 11’s.

Important notice regarding exams and tests
Please note that exams and tests are set for particular days/weeks and we do not reschedule unless for medical reasons.

Important dates regarding testing and exams are given to the students well in advance and they are provided with an examination timetable at least 2 weeks before the exams. Examination week dates are also published in the newsletter, on the Term Planner and on our website.

The external WACE Examinations for Year 12 are set by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority and schools have no jurisdiction over these dates. The examination period for 2014 is 3 November – 28 November. The exact dates of individual exams is released on 25 July and will be available on the SCSA website.

Some important Year 11 & 12 class area dates for the remainder of 2014
- July 25 – 2014 WACE examination timetable released
- September 22-24 – Year 12 Semester 2 ATAR Exams and general testing week for all other courses
- September 26 – Year 12 Agricultural and Trade students may leave if they have completed all work and are signed off
- October 13 – Year 12 ATAR students return. Any students with work to finish return
- October 14-15 – Compulsory Year 12 ATAR Study Camp
- November 3 – 24 - WACE Examination Period
- November 17-21 – Year 11 ATAR Semester 2 Exams and testing week for all other courses.

Please keep checking the newsletters, Term Planners, website and College Chatter for any new dates that may come up.
Term Two is well under way and of course that brings with it the seasonal cropping activities. Just after Anzac Day we received a very welcome 50-millimetre rain event which was followed up on the 9 and 22 May with another 22 and 23 millimetres respectively – the type of start to the season that is dreamed about but rarely delivered. After a very long and dry summer period the country was certainly looking parched – you could almost sense the relief of the bush and country in general, not to mention the farming community as a whole. Our fingers are crossed that timely rain events continue throughout the growing season.

After a bit of a shaky start, seeding has been progressing at a steady pace with Year 12 students enjoying time out on the tractor. Both Mr Childs and Mr Longmire have been kept busy – of course with this being his first seeding season here, Mr Longmire has been learning as much about our program, machinery and processes as the students. In addition to this, is a settling in period for both College staff and our new agronomist – Ty Henning from Tek Ag. I’m pleased to report that there have been few teething problems at this stage and I remain in awe at how quickly fellows like Ty can get a handle on someone else’s operation.

At time of writing, we have canola, lupins, clover and wheat sown and emerged. The barley has been completed with a paddock of oats and the balance of the wheat yet to sow. The temptation for our sized program is to go flat out and get it all in as quick as possible but the need to wait for weed germination and the need to spread the frost risk has to be accounted for. Of course our operation is vastly different to our neighbours in that we also have to roster through our student drivers which calls for patience, especially when getting them from other curriculum areas – thanks Class staff for your co-operation. The Kitchen staff and Residential staff all assist in their own way respectively - keeping students fed in the paddock and simply knowing where each individual is after hours. It really is a team effort.

Staff News
Assistant Farm Manager Mr Fissioli is currently away on his well-deserved Long Service Leave break exploring Europe. Regular snippets via email from him indicate that he is having the time of his life and thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to visit parts of the world where his forebears came from. I’m looking forward to seeing the pictures and hearing all about his travels when he returns. To assist with student supervision in his absence, we were fortunate to secure the services of Mrs Kylie Iles. This was indeed fortunate because part of this time we were down another staff member who was on medical leave. Our very large Year 11 groups, the seeding activity (where the Year 12s are on the air-seeder) and the absence of a couple of staff had made for challenging times on occasion but we have managed to survive.

Although I sometimes get frustrated with staffing issues, the reality is that I’m fortunate to have the team that I do, who keep the farm ticking over in a wide range of enterprises.

General News
Our new buildings being built as part of the Trade Training funding are nearing completion. The Farm Workshop/Office area is all but complete but there have been delays waiting for the contractors to do the fit-out of the piggery. We are still hopeful that we get the buildings handed over for use in the not too distant future.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we took delivery of our new truck at the end of last term. It is as good as we had expected and staff and students alike are impressed when they get to take it for a drive. The hunt is on
for a second hand tandem axle pig trailer – preferably with a tray and removable bin. If you know of one that could be suitable, please contact the College. Failing being able to buy second hand, we will explore the options of buying a purpose built trailer.

**Mr Ball** has been busy keeping an eye on our compost heap, keeping it watered and turned on a regular basis. The hope is that the end product can be utilized on the College grounds and or in various paddock situations. If we are successful in producing a usable product, it is a good way of using up various waste materials and reusing some of the effluent water from the piggery.

**Mr Laird** and **Mr Byrnes** both report that their sheep and cattle respectively are in good order with sufficient paddock feed for this time of the year. Lambing of the main Merino flock is due to commence shortly and the cattle will start calving from July through to October. **Mr Laird** sent the 60 bale wool clip away last week which is scheduled to go to auction on 11 June.

**Weekend Duty & Country Week Work Experience**

Weekend duty is rostered such that most students will be required to work at least one weekend per year. It is up to the students to forward plan their time so they are available for that weekend or arrange for another student to swap duties. Additionally, students who have fallen behind with their credited time on farm can negotiate to do additional duties to gain credits – preferably by swapping with a student who has sufficient credits. Parents are requested to discuss the roster with students to ensure they manage the process correctly.

The last week of Term Two is an opportunity for students to spend additional time on farm to gain credits and assessments, albeit at the disadvantage of competing in Country Week sporting activities. Please contact myself or **Mr Hooper** if you would like your son or daughter to be considered for this opportunity. Places are limited to 15, so first-in first-served.

In closing, I’d like to reiterate the great start to the cropping season and the great start to the year in general. It is pleasing that the vast majority of students appear to be heeding advice and are making good progress. Of course it is vital that parents take an active interest to encourage their son or daughter to strive for the very best that they can achieve and I look forward to continuing positive results as the year progresses.
A big thank you to all parents who are up to date with payments or payment plans, unfortunately there are still a few that need to clarify their situation.

The Department’s policy is as follows:

**Residential Fee**
The first and second instalments of residential fees must be cleared by the end of Semester One for students to continue in residence in Semester Two.

Please ensure that all payments have been made to the College by this date or you have made prior arrangements with me for a payment plan to ensure that we do not have to terminate any of your children from boarding at this College.

**Payment Options:**
*Cheques* can be posted to PO Box 132 Cunderdin WA 6407

*Electronic Transfer* – bank details as follows:
- Account Name: WA College of Agriculture Cunderdin
- Bank: Westpac
- BSB: 036 107
- Account Number: 129204

If using this method please include your students “Student Number” as reference.

*Phone*
You can also call the College between the hours of 8.00 am – 4.00 pm Monday – Friday, to make over the phone payments.

**Country Week and North West Tour**
Payments for North West Tour are due by Tuesday 3 June and Country Week Payment is due by Friday 13 June. Please ensure these payments are made by the due dates for your child to be able to participate.

**BAHA (Boarding Away from Home Allowance)**
The BAHA forms have now been posted to parents, this enables you to receive $2105 off your boarding fees. If you receive AIC please complete the form you received and post with necessary documentation to the College by 31 July 2014.

If you received the BAHA Special Subsidy form, please return to the College by 31 July 2014.

If you received the wrong form or need any clarification please contact me at the College so that I can assist you.

Please be aware that you must complete a form to be eligible for the entitlement.

If anyone has any concerns regarding Fees and Charges please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Kellerberrin Netball**

*Mrs McCart* and I have been taking 17 girls to Kellerberrin on a Wednesday night for netball for the last five weeks. The girls have been enjoying getting away from the College for a few hours and having some fun. Lemurs have won 3 and lost 2, while Zebras have had one win. Of course we did play each other last week so one team had to be the loser – Lemurs have bragging rights for that game.

We’ll be missing games this week due to exams, so wishing the girls all the best for their exams.

*Mrs Childs*
Quotes from the day

Intense – very in depth, raw, made you think about different things that are involved in these situations. Was broken up well, with a bit of humour.

Casey Parker

Was a very inspiring story with a twist at the end – he could walk!

Jordan Jefferies

A real eye-opening experience.

Matt Flint

I think the talk will really affect the decisions and choices we make in the future.

Jemma Read

Was a very great and sad story but I think that we all should be inspired by what he had to say.

Brandon Wells

It was a great presentation, deep and still funny. I liked the fact that Rob said he’s still happy now even after this very hard time. He’s a very strong and inspiring man.

Manon Auray

Robert’s story was sad but it’s good that he goes around to schools taking about his accident and how he lost three of his good friends. I think it will help us all in the future when we get our licences to always drive appropriately.

Jaxon Booth

It was a real wake-up call when it comes to thinking about everyday life. It just makes you think twice about the everyday choices you make. As Rob said, those decisions can change your life instantly.

Harris Thompson

His talk this morning was very inspirational and he has influenced me to think before I get behind the wheel.

Tekura Irvine
## UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FOR 2014

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<td><a href="http://www.cyoc.wa.edu.au">www.cyoc.wa.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Curtin University</td>
<td><a href="http://www.curtin.edu.au">www.curtin.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Parent Information Evening Year 12 students – Wednesday 11th June 5.00 - 7.30pm Open Day - Sunday 3rd August 10.00am - 4.00pm</td>
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<td>Edith Cowan University</td>
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<td>University of Western Australia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uwa.edu.au">www.uwa.edu.au</a></td>
<td>Guided Tour – Monday 2nd June 10.00am Guided Tour – Monday 7th July 10.00am</td>
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<td>Countryweek/ Work Experience</td>
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<td>End of Term Two - College closes 4.00pm Semester One Reports posted</td>
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<td>North West Tour attendees to return between 3.00 - 5.00pm - Evening meal provided</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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