THE CHANGING NATURE OF CAREERS

According to a recent report by the Foundation for Young Australians, 60% of Australian students are training for jobs that will not exist in the future or will be transformed by automation.

Key points made in the report state that:

- 44 per cent of jobs will be automated in the next 10 years;
- 60 per cent of students are chasing careers that won’t exist;
- Young people will have an average of 17 different jobs.

As parents, guardians and educators, an understanding that the nature of work (and the relevance of pathway planning) is very different from our experiences will help support our students as they navigate their career choices.

Please encourage students to seek my assistance when exploring their future pathway choices.

Nina Dowie (Student Pathways Co-ordinator)

YEAR 8 STUDENTS PRACTISING CALLIGRAPHY

2015 TASMANIAN CALLIGRAPHY COMPETITION

As a part of our Year 8 ‘Sports and Hobbies’ unit in Japanese, students recently spent a lesson in the Edmund Rice Centre participating in a ‘Shodou’ (Japanese Calligraphy) workshop facilitated by Ms Jakki Hardman.

During this workshop Ms Hardman, who spent a number of years practising the art of Shodou while living in Japan, introduced students to the traditional activity of using a brush and ink to write ‘kanji’ or Chinese characters. Two pieces of student work from these workshops were selected to represent the College in the annual Tasmanian Calligraphy Competition. The quality of work produced by students during these workshops was excellent, making the selection of our two representative pieces very difficult. After long deliberations, works created by Piper Allanby and Hannah Charlesworth were selected to represent the College. We would also like to congratulate Hayley Downham and Joshua Dawes whose work was voted ‘Best in College’ by Year 8 students.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 101st WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES (2015)

The Church without borders, Mother to all

“‘The Church without borders, Mother to all

At volcanoes of those who are on the go. For the Church, in the terms of the Gospel, motherhood is not a condition, but a vocation.

Today she brings us to see what is going on in the world: at the level of an individual’s life, but also on a planetary scale. The Church’s motherhood is not a service similar to that of women, but a specific vocation of the Church as a whole.

Today this takes on a particular significance. In an age of such vast movements of migration, large numbers of people are leaving their homelands, with a suite of fears and desires, to undertake a hopeful and dangerous trip in search of more humane living conditions. Often, however, such migration gives rise to suspicion and hostility, even in ecclesiastical communities, prior to any knowledge of the migrants’ lives or their stories of persecution and destitution.

In such cases, suspicion and prejudice conflict with the biblical commandment of welcoming with respect and solidarity the stranger in need.”

TIMOR LESTE IMMERSION PROGRAM

In just over two weeks fifteen Year 10 students, accompanied by Mrs Rebecca Prenter, Mr Phillip Stanwood, Mrs Linda Pollard and Mr Matthew Dixon, will travel to Timor Leste. This is the third year of an immersion program aimed at establishing an ongoing community partnership with the Marobo community. We wish all participants a safe and joyful experience and we look forward to hearing about their time working with this community when they return.

I would like to extend my thanks to all members of the College community in supporting our mammoth fundraising effort over the past couple of months. With funds still coming in, fundraising for Timeline 2015 ROBOCUP Jr STATE TITLES COMPETITION

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STAFF NEWS

Mr Nicholas Lahey has been appointed Acting Deputy Principal for the remainder of the school year on the behalf of the College I wish well during his time in this very demanding role.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Alanah Monty (10 White) and Laura Monty (8 Blue) on their selection to represent Tasmania at the National Interschool Equestrian Championships to be held in Sydney later this month. All the best, Alanah and Laura.

Mrs Sue Howard
Acting Deputy Principal

FROM THE Acting Deputy Principal

STAMINA

As we enter the last 3 weeks of term, I am asking parents to encourage students to remain focused on their studies and to maintain positive relationships with their peers. Often about three quarters of the way through a term and at this point three quarters of the way through the school year, students’ level of focus and stamina starts to dive. The basic procedures and protocols can too easily be overlooked. Students would benefit from being punctual for the commencement of the day (first bell 8:25am – for an 8:30am start) and for all of their classes, being well organised by making use of the College Planner and by having some self-respect in their appearance and wearing of the College uniform. I am looking forward to working in partnership with parents and students for the remainder of 2015 in this new role.

COURTESY COMMUNICATION

Our Home Room teachers have the important role of managing the general organisation and welfare of approximately 26-28 students in their allocated Home Room group. Please assist them in this important role by supporting their efforts to maintain control in the nature of any absences, or future, planned absences (holidays/appointments), and by also returning permission slip paperwork promptly. All staff members can be contacted via e-mail by going to the school website and scrolling down to the bottom of the page and clicking on the “Contact Us” tab then “Contact Staff” bar. A list of every staff member will drop down so you can click on their e-mail address.

KEEPING PERSONAL BELONGINGS SECURE

As I wander through the various year-level locker-bay areas, I’m concerned by the number of lockers that have no locks on them to secure the students’ belongings. Please encourage your son/ daughter to take care of valuable, personal possessions while they are at school. In particular items such as wallets, mobile phones, iPods and iPads should be safely locked away in student lockers when not in use, or passed into the College Office for safe keeping. Articles of clothing, books etc. should be clearly labelled with students’ names so that, if misplaced, they can be promptly returned. We need to generate a culture of care and awareness of the value of property.

RU OK? DAY – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Last Tuesday during the College Assembly, the Student Leaders were proud to announce a new project that they will be co-ordinating for the school this Thursday, September 10 - called RU OK? Day. RU OK? Day is a national day of action, dedicated to inspiring all people of all backgrounds to regularly ask each other ‘Are you OK?’

In a nutshell, the day aims to raise awareness to prevent suicide by encouraging Australians to connect with someone they care about and help stop little problems turning into big ones.

Beginning from Thursday, the Student Leaders want to encourage everyone to ask family, friends and fellow students: “Are you OK?” and build a culture that supports each other through talking. Guidance will be given on the day and during Personal Development lessons in how students can talk and listen in a meaningful way.

Something we’re never too young to learn is that asking “Are you OK?” can make a difference. Students are keen to inspire students to ask each other about the stuff that really matters and be there for one another when life gets a bit tough or stressful.

By giving teenagers the confidence to start conversations regularly and with real care, our students can be the generation that transforms the way we look out for anyone struggling with life.

Staying connected with others is crucial to our general health and wellbeing. Feeling isolated or hopeless can contribute to anxiety, depression and other mental illnesses. Regular, meaningful conversations can protect those we know and care for.

RU OK? Day is a simple message: You can start a conversation that could change a life.

MARINE STUDIES CAMP

Year 10 Animal Studies students over the next two weeks have the fortunate opportunity to study Marine Science at Woodbridge. Thanks to Mr Bernie Colebourn for organise the Marine Studies camps this year, giving our students a more practical experience in Science. Thanks to Miss Kaylee Bonfield, Ms Rosemary Graham and Miss Jennifer Rider for also assisting with supervision of an evening.

RYDA – YEAR 10 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Next Wednesday all Year 10 Students will be attending the RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) one day conference at the Hobart Showgrounds. A series of practical and powerful workshops for students that aim to change the way young people think about road safety. At RYDA, students will:

• identify risks of car travel (to young drivers and passengers) including life-long consequences;
• identify contributing factors to crashes and understand how these are preventable (crashes aren’t accidents);
• identify what a low-risk driver/passenger is and compare to self (in relation to low-risk attributes);
• investigate ways to manage and eliminate road risk by developing and rehearsing personal strategies;
• Prepare steps (safer driver and passenger behaviour change) to lower identified personal risks and be a socially responsible road user.

SATIS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL – TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Best wishes to all our students that will be competing in a fortnight’s time at the SATIS Athletics Carnival at the Hobart Domain on Tuesday, September 22. Competition will begin from 9am and parents are most welcome as spectators. Thanks also to the HPE staff for encouraging and assisting our young athletes to achieve their goals.

Mr Nicholas Lahey
Acting Deputy Principal

DIECTOR OF MINISTRY

WALK TO TIMOR WALKATHON

In our recent Assembly, we acknowledged the hard work and recent commitment of all our students in the recent Walkathon which was held to raise money for the Timor Leste Teacher Training project. We had an incredible response from students, who all enthusiastically lapped the school each morning before school, at lunchtime, and at break time. It was great to see this type of school spirit and solidarity for a cause very close to MacKillop’s heart. This report is not complete without acknowledging the outstanding commitment in number of laps and money raised by the following students – well done!

Year 10: Andrew Merrigan, Spencer Rose, Daniel White, David Wright, Edward Biggs, Lia Visen, Jesse Fox
Year 9: Mark Mamic, Kylie Bartels, Kirstyn Stevens, Maisie Keil
Year 8: Seb Donaldson

The Walk to Timor raised $2870. Together with $600 raised from JAMM week and Timor Coffee sales, we are well on the way to funding a Teacher Training Program and resources. Thanks to you, the student leaders, Mr Phillip Stanley, Mr Matthew Dixon, Mr Nicholas Lahey, Mrs Rebecca Prenter for your commitment and organisation of all the events. Thank you to the Timor Immersion students who walked, stayed on duty at recess and lunch to hole up the collection box, and those who paid in a smile and, last but not least, thank you to all the students who took part in the Walk, R U OK? Day and Timor Co Day.

R U OK? Day is a simple message: You can start a conversation that could change a life.

COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING ONLINE ASSESSMENT

As we enter the last 3 weeks of term, I am asking parents to encourage students to remain focused on their studies and to maintain positive relationships with their peers. Often about three quarters of the way through a term and at this point three quarters of the way through the school year, students’ level of focus and stamina starts to dive. The basic procedures and protocols can too easily be overlooked. Students would benefit from being punctual for the commencement of the day (first bell 8:25am – for an 8:30am start) and for all of their classes, being well organised by making use of the College Planner and by having some self-respect in their appearance and wearing of the College uniform. I am looking forward to working in partnership with parents and students for the remainder of 2015 in this new role.

COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING ONLINE ASSESSMENT

Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) is considered by many to be one of the essential 21st century skills. As such the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) has established a set of trials of an online assessment process specifically to assess the underlying skills required to successfully engage in CPS. MacKillop College has been invited to be one of the schools involved in this trial.

The target group for the trial is the Year 8 cohort and each student will be required to complete four online tasks – each task takes about 10 minutes. The trial is being held across 18 schools from four states and is to be conducted 19-22 October. At the same time, ACARA has established the online assessment, which will be interviewed by interviewers from Education Assessment Australia (EAA) who have been contracted by ACARA to collect data regarding how understandable the questions in the assessment are from the perspective of our students.

A consent form has been sent out (Tuesday 8 Sept) for parents to sign if they wish for their child to participate in this as part of this trial. The College would appreciate if students and parents could sign and return these forms by Friday, 11 September, at the latest.

Please contact me if there are any further questions regarding the trial.

Dr John Snell
Director of Learning and Teaching

INSIDE AFGHANISTAN

On Wednesday, August 19, three Year 7 classes gathered in the Drama room to meet Mr Nick Wilson (father of Caroline in 7 Blue) who served in Afghanistan as an Artillery Officer.

As we are reading the novel Paramita in English, we thought it was important to share what he saw whilst serving and what life was really like.

It was a very interesting talk and it gave us an insight into life in Afghanistan. It has helped us to understand the situation of the characters in the novel.

It made us grateful for what we have here and where we live.

Thank you to Mr Wilson for sharing his time and experiences, and to Mrs Dobie for organising the visit.

Elfa Visenin and Neva Callnan - 7 Blue