



Baldivis
Secondary College

NEWSLETTER

For more photographs please visit our website



Welcome to the first e-Newsletter for 2016. The school year has kicked off with a very positive approach from all of our community members. Our new students and our incoming Year 7 students have settled in very well to Baldivis Secondary College. I am particularly impressed with the way the Year 7 students have started their secondary schooling journey. In the early weeks of

the 2016 school year we have already engaged in a variety of activities in and out of class and successes have quickly been experienced by students and staff. The College Board and staff have been developing a new Business Plan to take us into the next few years with a real focus on student success.

One of the most important things your child can do to achieve academic success is also one of the most basic: going to school every day. In fact, research has shown that your child's attendance record may be the biggest factor influencing their academic success. By attending class regularly, your child is more likely to keep up with the daily lessons and expectations. They are able to complete and hand in assignments and take quizzes and tests on time.

The many benefits of excellent attendance are:

Achievement:

Students who attend school regularly are more likely to pass reading and mathematics assessments than students who don't attend school regularly.

Opportunity:

For older students, being in school every day gives them a chance to learn more about post school destinations and scholarship opportunities, and to take the important exams they need to build a successful academic record.

Being part of the school community:

Just by being present at school, your child is learning how to be a good citizen by participating in the school community, learning valuable social skills, and developing a broader world view.

The importance of education:

Your commitment to school attendance will also send a message to your child that education is a priority for your family, going to school every day is a critical part of educational success, and that it's important to take your responsibilities seriously by going to school.

Continued overleaf

COMING EVENTS

<http://www.baldivissc.wa.edu.au/coming-events/>

8 March	Year 11 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:00pm to 7:00pm	23 March	Cert II Outdoor Recreation Abseiling Excursion	6 April	Year 10 Outdoor Ed Abseiling Excursion
14 March - 24 March	OLNA Testing	23 March	Keys for Life Driver Education Parent Information Evening in Library 6:00pm	7 April	ANZAC Commemorative Assembly 9:00am
17 March	WAAPA Excursion	24 March	Pink Stumps Day	8 April	Term 1 Ends
18 March	Year 8 Point Peron Excursion	25 March - 29 March	Easter Break	25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
22 March	P&C Meeting 6:30pm	31 March	Year 10 Outdoor Ed Abseiling Excursion	26 April	School Development Day
22 March - 24 March	Bunbury Big Bash Cricket Carnival	5 April	College Board Meeting 6:00pm	27 April	Term 2 Commences
				28 April	Tear 8 Immunisations
				29 April	Surf On-line Safe Presentations; Years 7 to 11

Continued from page one

What you can do

As a parent or guardian, it is possible to plan ahead in order to limit your child's absences, make school attendance a priority, and help your child from falling behind if it is necessary to miss a day of school. You can do this in the following ways:

- **Help your child get to school on time every day.** Babysitting, problems with a car or late bus, and the weather are not permissible reasons to miss school. Frequently coming to school late may also be noted on your child's permanent record, and will make it difficult for your child to stay caught up with the first lessons of each morning. Teach your child how to set and use an alarm clock, and keep the television turned off in the morning.
- **Follow the college's guidelines and attendance policy, and report excused absences immediately.** At the beginning of the school year, review the college's policy and make sure you understand whom you need to call if your child is going to be absent.
- **Check homework.** Check each night to see that your child understands and completes the day's homework assignments. Accessing Connect will assist you in this regard.
- **Take an active role.** Stay involved with your child's daily experiences at school by asking how the school day went and what they did (don't accept the teenage response of a grunt, moan or 'nothin'), and then listening carefully to what your child shares with you both the successes and struggles. Make it a point to meet and or communicate with your child's teachers and friends.
- **Locate potential sources of anxiety.** If your child frequently appears upset or reluctant to go to school and cannot tell you why, schedule an appointment with his or her Year Coordinator to talk about possible sources of the anxiety.
- **Keep updated on school events and announcements.** Read the school documents that your child brings home and take note of important announcements and dates. Connect, The College Planner on the website, College Facebook page, newsletters, emails, text messages and bulletins are all provided to keep you in touch with such things.
- **Try to limit the amount of time that your child misses school due to medical appointments or illness.** If possible, avoid scheduling doctor or dentist appointments during the school day. Allow your child to stay home only in the case of contagious or severe illnesses. Students who miss days, weeks, or months of school at a time will have a difficult time passing their courses and catching up to their peers. For older students, prolonged absences may make it very difficult to meet graduation requirements.

Attendance matters for achievement, and every day counts.

- **Schedule family events with your child's school schedule in mind.** Plan holiday celebrations or family trips during weekends or school holidays. In the case of family emergencies or unexpected trips, talk to your child's teachers as far in advance as possible and set up a way that your child can work ahead or bring important homework on the trip. Connect is an ideal tool for this.
- **Plan ahead.** Encourage your child to prepare for the next school day by laying out clothes the night before and helping to fix lunches and organise their bag.
- **Promote good health.** Make sure that your child eats a balanced diet with plenty of fruits and vegetables, and has opportunities to exercise every day through a sports team or activities outside.
- **Create a restful environment.** Finally, make sure that your child can relax before bedtime by doing something quiet like reading rather than do something stimulating, like watching television or playing computer games. Ensure that your child gets enough quality sleep ideal amounts range from 8 to 10 hours. Getting enough sleep will help them get up on time, be refreshed in the morning, and feel ready for a full day of learning ahead!

By making your child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!

Please enjoy this edition of the college e-Newsletter!

Kind Regards

Keith Svendsen - Principal



School success starts
with attendance

WEST COAST FLY BY

The West Coast Eagles were in full swing for their 2016 Community Camp, flying into the College on Tuesday, 9 February.

Forward Coach Justin Longmuir introduced team members Sharrod Wellingham, Brant Colledge and Corey Adamson to the students, giving an initial message linking the college's pillars of Excellence, Unity, Integrity and Respect with the clubs core values.

It was then up to the players to address the students; each providing an insight into the life of an elite sportsman and giving the students a key message about the importance of always 'being the best that you can be'.

Sharrod Wellingham spoke about the team expectations and that the fact that everyone has a specific role to play in ensuring successful outcomes. Students were given an insight as to what the Eagles players valued and how those values transpired into the way in which the players approach their training and their game day. Elite training, a united team and competitive instinct were reinforced as the key driving forces at the club.

Corey Adamson, a former Major League Baseball player spoke at length about the importance of goal setting. Corey highlighted the importance of setting smaller, short-term goals in order to achieve bigger longer-term goals.

"Small steps every day make us inches closer to the dream".

Corey told the students that it was important for them to personalise their own goals and regularly reflect on these goals to plot how they were progressing.

Brant Colledge's message focussed on the importance of routine and time management. Brant highlighted the importance of being organised and sticking to a healthy and balanced lifestyle to get the most out of yourself.

It was such a great experience for our students. Not only did the students get a buzz out of meeting the star players, but the key messages that were delivered were valuable and thought provoking.



A DAY AS A CONSERVATION BIOLOGIST

On Friday 26 February our 7-3 Science class spent a day exploring King's Park.

The students spent the morning with Kings Park staff at the Education Centre. The 90-minute session provided an opportunity to experience the type of work done by horticulturalists and environmental biologists in the field and in the laboratory. Students collected fruits from native plants in nearby bushland, cleaned dried seed, then pressed and labelled a plant specimen ready for a Herbarium. The students then planted the seeds of sandpaper wattle. While some students scarified (rubbed on sandpaper) the seeds; others treated them with smoke water to help with germination. We have since planted seeds at school, and we will see which seeds germinate the best.

A well-deserved ice-cream and rest followed to build up the energy levels needed to explore the Botanic Gardens. The students investigated how the gardens are landscaped and what information was on the signs. This will help us to begin planning and creating our botanical garden at school. The views of Perth City were stunning, so many photos were taken. It was a hot day, so a squirt from the gardener's hose was a welcome cool down before we looked at the War Memorial; Flame of Remembrance; and the Whispering Wall. The cool of the air-conditioned bus lulled many into an afternoon nap as we returned to school.

Contributed by Jo Tregonning | Teacher - Science



YEAR 11 GENERAL EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE - KINGS PARK FIELD TRIP

Joining the Year 7 students on their field trip to King's Park were our Year 11 General Earth and Environmental Science students.

The students participated in two sessions, the first visiting the plant propagation laboratory where they learnt about the work Kings Park is doing to develop native species that are appealing to people with small gardens such as those in much of Baldivis. Native species in gardens are beneficial both in terms of reducing water consumption and providing habitat for fauna.

The students then went into the bush to practice some environmental sampling techniques that they will be studying in Unit 2 of our course. These sampling techniques give us an overall picture of the flora species present in a certain area and are an important tool for budding environmental managers.

Contributed by Erin Baker | Teacher - Science



LIBRARY LOWDOWN

The Baldivis Secondary College Library is one of the Keys to Success!

We have new opening hours:

Before School we are open from 8.20am until the first bell at 8:30am. This is a great opportunity for students to loan and return items, do some printing, copying or using the AVID equipment to prepare work to hand in.

We are now open for Recess on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for private study. Students wishing to read, print out school work, catch up on work, do some research or study for a test are welcome to come in for a quiet place to do those things.

This year we are open every lunch time. Students are welcome to come in for a private study, games and quiet group chat. We ask everyone to be respectful of other library users and keep the noise down. Unfortunately there is no eating or drinking in the library, so students should eat their lunch before coming in. We will hold special events in the Library from time to time, so keep an eye out for those.

The staff in the Library are: Miss Thompson, Teacher Librarian, Mrs Gschwendtner (Mrs G) and Mrs Gordon, Library Officers.

We are all here to help – just ask!



P&C NEWS

Thank you to everyone who attended the P&C Annual General Meeting.

The new 2016 P&C Executive Committee was elected at the AGM:

P&C President	Tracy Gschwendtner
P&C Vice President	Leonie Vaughan
Treasurer	Nick O'Neill
Secretary	Ayesha Korljan

This year the P&C is keen to support the college to provide arrange of seating and undercover spaces for the students to use during their breaks. We would be very keen to hear from any tradespeople who might be interested in supporting the P&C in this endeavour, by providing expertise and labour to the project. If you can assist please contact President Tracy via the P&C email baldivis.sc.p&c@education.wa.edu.au.

Can't make meetings, but want to be connected?

If you would like to be part of the P&C and can't make it to the meetings, please email your contact details to baldivis.sc.p&c@education.wa.edu.au. The next P&C meetings will be held on Tuesday, 22 March 2016 and Tuesday, 17 May 2016 coming at 6:30pm in the College Boardroom.

All are welcome

YEAR 10 PHYSICS POLICE VISIT

In Week 3, two police officers from Baldivis Local Police Team visited the college to meet with some of our Year 10 students

This term the Year 10 students are studying Physics, with a focus on motion and calculating speed. The police brought with them their speed detection equipment and explained to the students how they catch speeding drivers and just how hard it is to avoid a speeding ticket!

The officers who attended commented on how polite and engaged our students were during the presentations.

Contributed by Erin Baker | Teacher - Science



READTHEORY

The English Department at Baldivis Secondary College is committed to ensuring all students improve their literacy so that they can fully participate in the whole-school curriculum and achieve their true potential.

To this end, we are excited to be rolling out a great new initiative designed to boost reading comprehension across all years. Reading comprehension is an essential skill that students must develop to cope with all the reading that they must do in all their subjects. Every student, whether they are in Year 7 or Year 11, can benefit enormously from regular reading comprehension practice.

ReadTheory.org is an online program that determines a child's reading age and delivers reading passages that develop their reading comprehension over time. There is no cost involved and students shouldn't need to spend more than about half an hour per week at home to gain the benefits from the program. More information about the program can be found on their website.

Students are able to monitor their progress, as are their teachers. Here at school we will be providing prizes and other incentives for students who achieve personal bests and make genuine attempts to improve their performance. It would be excellent if this could be reinforced in the home as well, perhaps with a reward system you may have already established.

Your child's log in details should have been provided to you by his/her English teachers so you can track their progress. If you don't have those details, please contact your child's English teacher.

Contributed by Peter Count | Curriculum Team Leader - English



SUSTAINABILITY... A COLLEGE-WIDE FOCUS

Baldivis Community Garden

Our first community workshop day was held on Sunday, 28 February. A strong turnout enabled us to prepare the first six community beds for planting and lay the foundation for our equipment shed. We also enjoyed some amazing cake and banana bread, as well as a great chat and a chance to meet new people.

Check out more about this fantastic project via our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/BaldivisCommunityGardenInitiative/?fref=ts>



Low Carbon Schools Program

The Low Carbon Schools Pilot Program is a new 2-year program developed in WA to assist schools to improve the sustainability and operating efficiency of their schools whilst reducing their carbon footprint.

The program will largely focus on those involved in operating school buildings and infrastructure, as well as those responsible for managing school budgets. A range of technical solutions will be sought, along with behaviour change initiatives. Ideas of how these initiatives can be linked into the curriculum will also be provided. Baldivis Secondary College is proud to be one of the first W.A. schools to be a part of this fantastic initiative.



Waste Wise News

We are proud to announce that 100% of our organic waste produced in the College's canteen and Home Economics is now managed through our compost systems and worm farms. We have the capacity to manage organic waste produced by students too. Our next step will be streaming waste through a bin system and getting everyone to actually use them!



TravelSmart News

Our Junior Green Team is charging ahead with our fantastic TravelSmart program. The program encourages students to walk, ride or catch public transport to school. They are now designing projects in the local community that focus on **Healthy, Happy** and **Safe** travel.

Coming Up...

Clean Up Australia Day Friday, 4 March 2016

Year 7 and 8 students will clean up around Rivergums and the College grounds.

Year 8 Point Peron Coastal Study Excursion

This innovative multi-disciplinary excursion takes our Year 8 students to one of the most amazing natural resources right on our doorstep. Students will rotate through a number of workshops run by our Humanities, Science, English and Maths teachers, as well as team building activities. Permission slips are to be handed into the Front Office by Friday, 11 March 2016, along with the \$6 payment. This is one of the highlights of our Term 1 calendar!

EYES ON VET

What a busy and exciting start to the year for our Vocational Education and Training (VET) students!

The Year 11 students completed a Work Readiness Program in order to be ready to commence their work placements in Week 4. This included an Induction Day at The Cruising Yacht Club of WA in Rockingham, where students took part in a 'Speed Careering' session and had the opportunity to meet with a variety of people from a range of industry areas. Students were given excellent advice on career choices and pathways, and all speakers were presented with a small 'thank you' gift in appreciation of the time they gave up from their busy schedules to talk to our students. We were all so lucky to spend the day with an amazing view from the venue and the food served on the day was delicious!



Another important part of the Work Readiness Program included the Provide First Aid course, completing a Worksafe Certificate and Logbook preparation. In addition, the Construction Pathways students also completed training at school for their White Card and were all very excited to collect their Personal Protective Gear and uniforms. Some students were also kept extremely busy finding work placements leading up to Week 4.



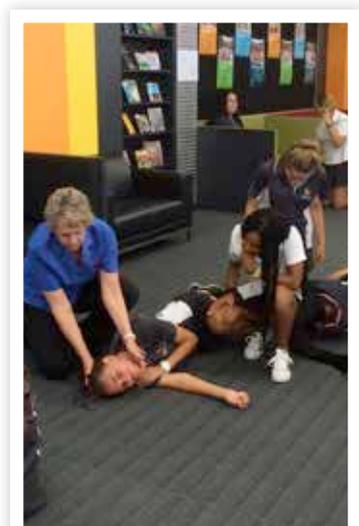
From all reports so far, **students have really enjoyed their first week at their placements.**

At the same time, some students have been lucky enough to gain places in Certificate courses off campus at TAFE or have gained School-Based Traineeships and are off to a great start to following their dreams.

Our VET Hospitality students have already taken on their first catering 'gig' and prepared a beautiful morning tea at a Kwinana Industries Council VET meeting in only their third week at school. Many thanks to Ms Sheldon and the Hospitality team for their efforts... all present were very impressed with the beautiful presentation of delicious food.

Congratulations to our VET students who are already showing persistence and a determination to succeed! Please keep your 'Eyes on VET' in the next newsletter for some great photos of our students at their workplace.

Contributed by Melinda Simich | VET Manager



WHY BYOD GIVES STUDENTS AND EDGE

The Value of Bringing Your Own Device (BYOD) and how it changes your child's experience in every classroom.

What are we trying to achieve?

There is no question that parents and our College are united in our appetite to provide our young people with the most valuable education possible, an education which values literacy and numeracy development as well as developing each student's skills and understandings of the world around them. Our College will be doing a great job if our young people are valued in society not only for the things they know and can do but also for the type of person they become. Honesty, integrity and compassion are important traits in any of us.

The modern world also challenges our young people to enter with the skills needed to effectively integrate digital technologies in to every aspect of their life and the capacity to apply this in the workplace. Students working with digital devices in each and every classroom setting provide an experience for young people where they develop the digital skills needed and the capacity to apply these skills in a range of settings. A classroom where every student has access to a digital device means that teachers can confidently develop lessons which truly engage the digital natives which are today's young people. These classes can access their work regularly and consistently in digital form through Connect, they collaborate with each other through Web Quests and engage with the latest information through web-based research. In short, many of the valuable activities taking place in the modern classroom were not even possible as little as five years ago. There is an unprecedented opportunity for our students to experience an education of a quality never before seen.

Whilst there was a time when government funding supported the notion of the 'supplied device', unfortunately these times have passed. Schools now need to establish programs, such as BYOD, which support the digital classroom in a sustainable way.

What can you do to support this great opportunity?

Our teachers are well skilled and very keen to engage with the modern digital classroom with a number of our Learning Areas moving to digital textbooks and online learning programs. Our College is well resourced in providing classroom digital technologies such as Interactive White Boards, WiFi and network security. The digital environment for our students is 'ripe for the picking' but we need your help:

- Engage with your young person and explain the importance of their device in giving them an experience which will support deep contextual learning and which they will enjoy much more.
- Make sure your young person is charging and maintaining their device and most importantly packing it in to their bag every day.
- Engage with Connect with your son or daughter to look at the resources provided by the teachers as well as the live marks book facility.
- Ask your young person to show you the amazing work they are doing. Whilst what they are learning might be similar to what you learned at school, how they are achieving the learning and demonstrating their ability is very different. The digital technology redefines how students work in classes.
- Look at the online learning tools and textbooks which teachers are using with students so that you are familiar.
- Problem solving digital issues is a part of all of our lives. Encourage your young person to seek help from teachers and Graham Pilsworth (IT Support) when they are having issues with their device or connectivity. Doing nothing means that you have nothing.

The challenge in this digital age is embrace the opportunity because when we don't we get left behind. Importantly in the classroom context, when you don't bring your device you not only undermine your own learning but you undermine the learning of others because the opportunity cannot be fully embraced by class groups and their teacher.

Contributed by Paul Jones | Deputy Principal

SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS

House Championship

1 st	Mackinnon	690
2 nd	Stakehill	340
3 rd	Peel	331
4 th	Rixom	273

Individual Champions Boys

Year 7 Champion	Matthew Enz and Kingston Te Mete
Year 8 Champion Runner Up	Austin Poppert Josh Mikhail
Year 9 Champion Runner Up	Declan Boden Connor Bullock
Year 10 Champion Runner Up	Jordan Sprigg Will Smith
Year 11 Champion Runner Up	Declan Baker Hayden Parkinson

Individual Champions Girls

Year 7 Champion Runner Up	Sophie Turner Caitlin Bell
Year 8 Champion Runner Up	Alyssa Smogavec CJ Bertoncin
Year 9 Champion Runner Up	Naomi Larsen Jade Fawcett
Year 10 Champion Runner Up	Ataria Devery Bernise Roelofse
Year 11 Champion Runner Up	Zoe Jones Emma Hyde



THE AVID ADVANTAGE

Why is AVID so important at BSC?

AVID, which stands for Advancement via Individual Determination, is a program designed to help students develop the skills they need to be successful not only at school but also in 'life after school', whatever path they choose to take. The program places special emphasis on developing writing, critical thinking, teamwork, organisation and reading skills. At Baldivis Secondary College, students are exposed to elements of career development through the AVID program and are taught the importance of having a 'growth mindset' and a 'can do' attitude. Opportunities to teach these skills explicitly are limited in other schools and we believe essential in equipping students with the necessary skill set to be successful in the 21st Century!

The AVID curriculum focuses on building skills and developing behaviours that lead to success.

THUMBS UP TO RESPECT

All of our students gave the thumbs up to RESPECT.



VIDEO LINK

Our media students have created a number of video's reinforcing our key College values and initiatives. **Check them out at <http://www.baldivissc.wa.edu.au/videos/>**

CRICKET CHAMPS!

Check out the Cheshire cat smiles on these boys!

They are the Think Smart Statewide T20 Under 15 champions for 2016. Eight out of the 12 players in the team are Baldvis Secondary College students and all members of the Cricket Academy!

In a sensational display of T20 cricket the Under 15's from White Knights Baldvis defended 6/148 to keep Bateman CC to 6/110 of their 20 overs.

Contributed by Leigh McIntosh | Director of Coaching - Baldvis Cricket Academy



NATIONAL CAPITAL TOUR 2016

The fanHASStic tour to Canberra is being organised for November 6th to 11th this year.

This year the tour is open to all Year 9 and Year 10 students. The cost will be approximately \$1500 per student. If you are keen to attend this amazing tour opportunity please listen out for when we call for Expressions of Interest.

Contributed by Natasha Cheater | National Capital Tour Coordinator



PARTY PROGRAM

On Wednesday, 2 March 26 Year 11 students visited Royal Perth Hospital as participants in the Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth (PARTY) Program.

The program provided an amazing opportunity for the students to learn first-hand about trauma and the enormous impact trauma has on individuals and their families. Most of the focus was on helping our young people to recognise potential injury-causing situations and make informed prevention-oriented choices about activities. The group were exposed to the real experience of injury and recovery, with presentations from two individuals whose lives have been seriously affected by misadventure. One, a 30 year old quadriplegic spoke candidly about the day to day challenges life presents for him and the heartbreak of never being able to hold a baby in his arms. The group also visited the Intensive Care Unit where another young man was on life support, facing an unknown future.

Contributed by Matthew Adams | Teacher - Health and Physical Education



TRANSPERTH UPDATE

With the increase in student numbers we require additional bus services to the college for our students. We will also have a need for increased bus pick up and set down points. We have liaised with Transperth and the City of Rockingham and have been successful in acquiring increased bus services as well as additional bus bays on Stillwater Drive. The new bus bays will be located directly north of the crosswalk at the college's front gate. Once the signage has been erected and the bus stop posts installed, parents picking up students at the end of the school day will need to be aware of this space and cannot park in that area. It will be clearly sign posted to avoid any confusion and we will assist by monitoring and advising parents accordingly. Having the additional services will assist our students in their travels and will also aid in a more organised approach by the buses at the end of the school day.

let's connect

Baldivis Secondary College - Service Changes

Monday 14 March 2016

From Monday 14 March 2016, there will be stand changes at Baldivis Secondary College.

Services will now leave from the following stands:

Stand 1

- Route 565 to Baldivis via Nairn Dr at 2.47pm and 2.55pm.

Stand 2

- Route 566 to Warnbro Station at 2.47pm.
- Route 566 to Baldivis via Makybe Dr at 2.52pm.

Stand 3

- Route 567 to Warnbro Station at 2.47pm.
- Route 567 to Baldivis via Heritage Pk Dr at 2.52pm.

Stand 4

- Route 568 to Baldivis North via Norseman App at 2.48pm.
- Route 568 to Baldivis Central via Norseman App at 2.50pm.

Stand 5

- Route 568 to Warnbro Station at 2.47pm.

Please line up for your buses next to the new stands and have your SmartRider or cash ready for boarding as soon as your bus arrives.

You should also remember to check the destination screen on the bus to ensure you are on the correct service.

For Assistance:

www.transperth.wa.gov.au

Transperth InfoLine 13 62 13 (TIS: 13 14 50)

Hearing or speech impaired? Call via NRS 133 677



LET'S GET APPY

Stay Connected ... Download the Baldivis Secondary College Skoolbag App

Available for download

- iPhone & iPad App
- Android App which works on phones and tablets
- Windows Phone 8.1 and Windows 8.1 and 10 App



KEYS FOR LIFE WORKSHOP

For Parents and Students

When Wednesday 23rd March
Where Baldivis Secondary College Library
Time 5.00pm-6.00pm (Please arrive at 4.45pm for a 5.00pm start)

To find out more go to <http://www.baldivissc.wa.edu.au/keys-for-life/>



WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN



Thank you for all those little Woolworths Earn and Learn stickers. These resources will definitely benefit all our students.

CHESS CLUB

Any students who are keen to learn how to play chess and meet some new friends are invited to join the College Chess Club, which meets during the lunch break on Mondays in Room 07-210.

