OFFICE HOURS—2016

FINANCE OFFICE: Monday to Friday: 8:30am–4:00pm
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE: Monday to Thursday: 8:15am–4:30pm
                                           Friday: 8:15am–4:00pm

BERWICK COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Berwick College notifies parents by email when newsletters are published. Newsletters are published three times per term. Newsletters can be accessed on the Berwick College website. Please keep up-to-date with all College news by reading the Bulletin and following up with the appropriate Home Group Teacher if you have any concerns.

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Berwick College Newsletter — Issue 1 2016
Welcome back to the 2016 school year.

Every year we have students whose parents attended Berwick and as we approach our 40th anniversary in 2017, I am very proud of the journey this College has taken and the multi-generational connections and history with our local community. At the first assembly I reminded our staff, students and parents that Berwick College has a great culture, one of continuous improvement that embodies our values of respect, integrity, perseverance, personal achievement and resilience.

Our first whole school assembly on Thursday 28th January saw nearly 1,600 students fill the stadium and we welcomed 23 new staff and 270 new Year 7 students. Last Wednesday, the Year 7 Wellbeing Day was held to build positive connections between staff and students. The performers from Brainstorm Productions said that they had never performed in front of a group this large who were so well behaved and polite. My thanks to Mrs Lauren Manolitsa, the Junior School Coordinator, Mr James Doble and staff from wellbeing and administration who helped prepare for and provided support to ensure the Year 7 students had a fabulous day.

Our Year 12 teachers of 2015 and 35 Year 12, 2015 students enjoyed catching up at the annual morning tea. Destination Data has been completed on every student with our students securing pathways in the Defence Force, Universities, TAFE courses, work placements and apprenticeships. Our Year 12 Coordinator Ms Lexie McGill was acknowledged for securing a $4,500 yearly grant through the David Burgess Foundation for Year 12 2015 student, Jessica Quental’s tertiary studies.

A special welcome back to our G’Day USA students and staff who travelled to the United States for three weeks including participating in Homestay with an American family and attending a local High School. A full report is in this newsletter. Planning and fundraising will continue for the community project in Vietnam/Cambodia—World Challenge being held in late November.

Our Annual Implementation Plan is being finalised and will be submitted to the School Council and as always, we will continue to focus on improving the learning, developing our skills and strategies to get the best outcomes for our students.

A recognition and reward program will be introduced this year for our students. This badge system will reward and recognise students who display our College’s values with clear criteria to achieve a Gold, Silver or Bronze badge. The focus group led by Miss Mitchell and students Emma Sloan, Rebecca Potalej, Teah Coutu, Damon Slatter, Drew Hoffmeier, Monique Cerdor, Zane Davis, Riley Van Eede and Toria Taia spent many hours preparing for the program which was introduced to staff in Week 2. We look forward to seeing the implementation of this program in the coming months.

Since we started just three short weeks ago, we have also had whole school photographs, the Chisholm, Flynn and Hollows Learning Team award ceremonies for 2015 second semester application, achievement and attendance and Meet the Homegroup Teacher afternoon. Next week the swimming carnival will be held, early in March , our VCAL students will be fundraising for the Cancer Council in the Casey Relay 4 Life and the report writing cycle will commence shortly.

This is a short but significant term and our school community has made a strong start to the year.

Ms Kerri Bolch—Principal
VICTORIAN SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES (VSL)

Victorian School of Languages (VSL) has opened its enrolment online (https://www.vsl.vic.edu.au/Enrol/Default.aspx) for the year 2016.

Our centres offer over 55 languages, with 35 of those at Dandenong, Hampton Park and Berwick. We are a government organisation, which means low fees but professional teaching.

On Saturday mornings (9am – 12.20pm) we provide the opportunity to study languages, ranging from Arabic to Turkish, Albanian to Romanian, that your day school is unable supply. With reports and parent-teacher interviews you will be assured direct feedback and with our VCE classes the student is able to enhance their studies and hopefully their scores!

For further information find us online or contact our South East office in Dandenong 9791 9289.

Thank you for your interest - Your VSL-Team @ SouthEast!!!!!

FROM OUR TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

APPLE WALL PLUG ADAPTERS

If you have an Apple device (iPad, MacBook etc) at home it is essential that you read the message below - your wall plug adaptor may be dangerous.

- Additional information in relation to the recall can be found: http://www.apple.com/pr/library/2016/01/28Important-Notice-for-Certain-AC-Wall-Plug-Adapters-World-Travel-Adapter-Kit-Customers.html
- Additional information in identifying affected wall plug adaptors can be found: http://www.apple.com/support/ac-wallplug-adapter/

You can take any of the affected wall plug adaptors to any Apple Store, and (if they have stock) they will replace them immediately at no cost.

PARENT GUIDE TO GAMING

It’s FREE to download!! 100+ pages full of useful information. Easy to read A5 size. Suitable for all ages

The Guide includes top tips on managing games in the homes, parental controls explained, game genres, benefits, opportunities, risks and concerns and much much more...

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

State Schools’ Relief are dedicated to providing Victorian families with the resources they need to ensure that no student is left disadvantaged.

As part of the Victorian government’s Affordable Uniform Program, State Schools’ Relief will offer a free uniform pack to all 2016 government school Year 7’s who are current Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund recipients. Eligible parents who have already purchased their child’s uniform for the start of next year are entitled to a winter uniform package available in 2016.

Find out what the uniform pack includes and if you could be eligible, please see: State Schools’ Relief - Fact sheet for parents PDF | DOC

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities including: OES, Camps, Sport Excursions. Apply today!

Parents who missed this year's CSEF applications or were ineligible in 2015, can apply for CSEF in 2016. See: Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and select the following link to download the CSEF Application Form.

For more information please contact State Schools' Relief on 03 8769 8400, at contact@ssr.net.au or see: State Schools’ Relief.
Over the summer holidays, eight students along with Mr Nugent and Ms King travelled to the United States for a three-week trip. Below is a short recount of the trip by the Sam, Ebony and Jesse.

On our first full day in America we spent the whole day at the ‘Happiest Place On Earth’. We travelled to Disneyland in a yellow school bus, something exciting for all of us. Disneyland was something all 10 of us were most excited about. Despite the awful weather, the day was still as magical as it could have been. We got to spend 12 hours enjoying the endless rides and attractions and even got to see the famous fireworks show.

As part of the trip, we spent around 11 days in Phoenix, Arizona with an American family, experiencing the different lifestyles. We got to go to Gilbert High School while we were there. This was such an exciting day for all of us and one our favourite experiences in America. School in America is very different compared to Berwick College with different attending times; most of us had to get up around 6 o’clock every morning and the arrangements of classes available to students including Government, Financial Apps and Sign Language.

Overall, I think the best part of the trip was meeting so many people, we didn’t expect it. It was the best experience to spend time together overseas. We all made lifelong friends and memories that we will never forget. It was also lovely how accommodating the host families were. They made our time with them so much easier and we all felt at home with them. They truly made our time in America so much more enjoyable.

All of us would strongly recommend doing G’Day USA as it is a great way to experience life lessons, see how another culture live, make new friends and memories.

Name: Ebony Vivian (Year 12)

What was your favourite part of the trip? Meeting new friends

What was the toughest part of the trip? Leaving my host family

What surprised you most about the American culture? How nice and friendly everyone was

How did you find visiting an American school? I enjoyed going to the school as it was very different to here

What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Be prepared to leave enough space in your bag for shopping and to bring lots of money!

Name: Lyn King (Staff)

What was your favourite part of the trip? The sights at the Grand Canyon, huge! As is everything in America.

What was the toughest part of the trip? The host family didn’t have coffee or a kettle, so no coffee in the morning. Also the coffee in the hotels wasn’t great.

What surprised you most about the American culture? How HUGE the meals/food servings were. Everything was huge.

How did you find visiting an American school? Fantastic. Really enjoyed it. It was enlightening and I had a great day.

What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Take plenty of spare space to fill your suitcase, as there are bargains everywhere. Relax and enjoy.

Name: Catriona Gallagher (Year 11)

What was your favourite part of the trip? Knott’s Berry Farm as I enjoy thrilling rollercoasters.

What was the toughest part of the trip? Hosting as I was with a family that was very different to mine, however I did enjoy myself and would do it again.

What surprised you most about the American culture? How nice and welcoming everyone was but how religious they are too.

How did you find visiting an American school? It was interesting to see how their days were set up and how their subjects were very specific. For example geometry not just math’s.

What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Be prepared to be homesick, but just go with whatever you have to do, as you will enjoy it all when you look back on it.
G’DAY USA—2016 CONTINUED...

Name: Sam Trudgett (Year 11)

What was your favourite part of the trip? I loved the whole trip.
What was the toughest part of the trip? Saying goodbye to my host family.
What surprised you most about the American culture? How much food they consume.
How did you find visiting an American school? I really enjoyed my time at school and learning about how their school system works.
What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Take a lot of money with heaps of space in your suitcase and enjoy every minute of it!

Name: Catherine Terry (Year 11)

What was your favourite part of the trip? Hosting was my favourite part as it helped me learn about another culture.
What was the toughest part of the trip? Leaving my host family.
What surprised you most about the American culture? How nice and friendly everyone was.
How did you find visiting an American school? The school experience was interesting and tiring, but a good learning experience.
What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Be prepared for everyday and make the most of all the places you’re visiting. Bring lots of money and leave lots of room in your suitcase!

Name: Jesse Williamson (Year 11)

What was your favourite part of the trip? Meeting new friends.
What was the toughest part of the trip? Leaving my host family.
What surprised you most about the American culture? How nice and friendly everyone was.
How did you find visiting an American school? I enjoyed going to the school as it was very different to here.
What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Be prepared to leave enough space in your bag for shopping and to bring lots of money!

Name: Liam Plunkett (Year 11)

What was your favourite part of the trip? I loved the hosting and Knott’s Berry Farm.
What was the toughest part of the trip? Missing my family, and leaving everyone.
What surprised you most about the American culture? How easy it was to get used to the culture, and how similar it was to home.
How did you find visiting an American school? It was very different to what I imagined. The food wasn’t that good, but all of my host’s friends were very nice to me.
What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Don’t second-guess it. If you are interested in doing this the slightest bit then do it. It is so worth it and you make so many good friends and memories. I loved it so much, I wish I could go again, and relive every moment of this life-changing trip.

Name: Mr Nugent (Staff)

What was your favourite part of the trip? The highlight for me would have to be visiting the NFL stadium for the Arizona Cardinals. We were able to get a behind the scenes tour, visit the locker rooms and go down on the field. The other highlights would have to be going to an NHL game and of course Disneyland!
What was the toughest part of the trip? Missing out on warm weather at home and the early starts with late finishes to days.
What surprised you most about the American culture? The importance of family and making people feel welcome.
How did you find visiting an American school? It was a very different experience. The smallest things were different, such as teachers having the same classroom all day no matter what subjects they taught. The 6.30am starts for Period 0 was extremely early!
What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? Give it a shot and put yourself out of your comfort zone. It’s not every day you get an opportunity to visit an American family and live life with them.

Name: Lena Schulz (Year 9)

What was your favourite part of the trip? I had many awe-some experiences on the trip but some of my highlights definitely include Disneyland, Knott’s Berry Farm and visiting the Grand Canyon.
What was the toughest part of the trip? I missed my family on the trip and it was sometimes hard but totally worth it!
What surprised you most about the American culture? I was surprised by the fact there was fast food everywhere and everything has a drive thru!
How did you find visiting an American school? This was definitely another favourite of mine. It was so cool and such a different experience.
What would be your advise to anyone considering doing this trip in the future? My advice would be that anyone thinking about this trip should definitely do it as it is a once in a lifetime opportunity and you meet so many amazing people, it is truly a memory that will stay with you forever!
Greetings from the Food Technology Department.
We are beginning to develop a kitchen garden adjoining our Food Technology rooms. We already have some large apple crates which we are going to use to grow organic vegetables and we have developed a new unit of work for Year 8 students which will be expanded to all year levels.

We want students to understand and appreciate how “good food” is grown and we will be using the produce in our cooking classes. We are asking the school community for assistance.

If you have anything that you no longer want such as outdoor tables and chairs in reasonable condition, a rotating barrel composter, pots, tools, bales of straw or anything else that you think we could use, please call Fiona or Cheryl in the Food Tech department during school hours on 87681053

Semester 1 parent / student / teacher interviews will be held in the Berwick Leisure Centre on:
   Wednesday March 23rd – 4.30pm to 8.00pm (last appointment 7.50pm)
   Thursday March 24th – 9.00am to 2.00pm (last appointment 1.50pm)
   (staff break 11.30am to 12.30pm)

We very much encourage both the parent and the student to attend.
Mid Semester reports will be posted on-line on Friday March 11th and can be accessed via the Parent Portal (see below for details)

Booking an interview
On-line bookings open Tuesday March 15th at 9.00am and close at 3.00pm on Tuesday March 22nd. The on-line booking system is part of the Parent Portal. All parents who attended the Meet the Home Group Teacher Afternoon will have received information regarding the Parent Portal. If you have not received the information please contact either your child’s Home Group teacher or the Year 12 Coordinators.

To access the Parent Portal go to our school web site: www.berwickcollege.vic.edu.au and at the top right corner click on “Quick Links”, then choose Parent Portal from the list that appears. Using the portal is very straightforward, but if you feel that you need assistance then please contact Mr David Goyen on 8768 1030, or goyen.david.j@edumail.vic.gov.au if you prefer email. The system has been set up so that parents can only see the information relating to their child.

Please be reminded that all students should be dropped off and picked up at the lower parking area, near the Leisure Centre.
Students should not be dropped off at the top staff car park. This area is unsafe as a drop off point due to staff parking and the fact that delivery vehicles need to access this area.
Please observe all advisory signs. Could parents also please be mindful of the rights of our neighbours when parking whilst waiting for their child to finish school.

Students, staff and visitors often bring personal property to school. Berwick College and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development do not accept responsibility for private property brought to school. This includes mobile phones, electronic games, calculators, toys, musical instruments, sporting equipment and also cars parked on school premises.
Welcome back to all students and teachers, and a very special welcome to our two new wonderful Year 7 classes, and home group teachers who have joined the Dunlop team for 2016.

This year we are very lucky to have several new staff members join our team, with Ms Julie Clish/Ms Gai Fitzgerald taking over Dunlop 2, and Ms Amanda Tait taking over Dunlop 6. Each has been a welcomed addition to the Learning team by both students and teachers alike.

We would also like to give a big congratulation to long time Dunlop home-group teacher and staff member, Angela Patten, who last week welcomed a healthy baby boy into the world. We wish her all the best as she enters her maternity leave.

Meet the Home group Teacher evening was a fantastic opportunity for not only the parents of Year 7’s and new students to meet their Dunlop home group teachers, but also an opportunity for existing parents and teachers to reconnect and catch up after the holiday break. We look forward to meeting those of you who were unable to attend!

We would also like to welcome and congratulate Danielle Mosterd, Eden Turner, and Sabrina McNulty (not pictured) who have been selected as the new Dunlop Captains for 2016. Each of these girls are exemplary role models to their fellow students, and have shown great commitment to the Dunlop Learning team. We look forward to working with you all, along with the entire leadership team to continue to raise funds for Mates 4 Mates, and further build upon the team culture instilled within the Dunlop Learning Team.

Mr James Firth and Miss Ashleigh Manning
Dunlop Student Learning Leaders

FROST FALCONS

Welcome back to all returning students, staff and parents and especially our new parents and students who have joined the Frost Falcons. It will certainly be a jam packed year ahead. Frost Falcons are named after Dame Phyllis Frost in recognition of her charity work for others.

Team Frost is Royal Blue (Sapphire) in colour.

Introducing the Student Learning Leaders

Student Learning Leader: Mr Scott Antony
Assistant Student Learning Leader: Ms Deana Mihalos

Frost Home group Teachers

Frost 1—Lakshmi Sharma  Frost 2—Dee Longwill  Frost 3—D’Arcy Garton
Frost 5—Rod Park  Frost 6—Pete McCall  Frost 7—Danni Vitalich

Frost Theme Song

Blue is the colour,
Frost is our name,
We are all here together,
And winning is our aim.
So hear us cheer from the Berwick stands,
Cause Frost,
Frost Falcons is our name.
CHISHOLM CHARGERS HAVE A MASCOT!

Welcome back to all our Chisholm students, and in particular, welcome to our new students and those starting Year 7. We’ve already had a busy start to the year, with our Meet the Home Group teacher evening, Academic Awards Ceremony and Year 7 Wellbeing day and we look forward to meeting many more parents at Term 1 parent teacher interviews.

I am excited to announce that the learning team now has a mascot, which reflects the team name of the Chisholm Chargers! The design was created by Dylan Bennett, a Year 10 student. Expect to see more of this logo throughout the year.

As mentioned in our final newsletter for 2015, we have appointed five students to our leadership team for this year. Ashleigh Mashado and Reiss Nicholson of Year 11 are our captains, having been vice-captains last year. We welcome Bec Henderson, Dylan Bennett and Shenali Subasinghe (Year 10) as our vice-captains.

We also have new additions to our Chisholm staffing team for 2016. We’d like to welcome Ms Sasha Lanyon to our learning team as Chisholm 7 home group teacher and Mr David Busteed, the new Assistant Principal who will oversee Chisholm.

We also welcome three new staff members - Zac Phillips, Matthew Oke and Gavin Watson - to the team.

Chisholm 1 – Ms Munira Mitric Chisholm 5 – Mrs Lorraine Zupan
Chisholm 2 – Mr Neville Perry Chisholm 6 – Ms Kristen Robinson
Chisholm 3 – Mrs Stephanie Merchant Chisholm 7 – Ms Sasha Lanyon
Chisholm 4 – Mrs Judy Hilleard

Our staff leadership team will also undergo some changes in the next couple of weeks.

After five years as Student Learning Leader, I will be embarking on a new journey, going back to study at university. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at Berwick, and in particular the Chisholm staff and students, who have made my time at Berwick so enjoyable. Kristen Robinson will take over as Chisholm Student Learning Leader, having been the assistant for the past five years. She has been a huge support to me in the leadership role and I wish her all the best - I look forward to receiving regular updates about Chisholm’s continued success in Learning Team competitions!

I hope it has been a smooth start to the year and wish all students an enjoyable and productive year ahead.

Ms Jodie Mortimer Student Learning Team Leader
We would like to send a warm welcome back to 2016 to all our O'Donoghue families.

First term is well and truly under way with the first few weeks flying by. We have welcomed our new Year 7 students and they have all made a fantastic start to the College.

We enjoyed getting to know them better at our Well Being Day on Wednesday 10th of February, which involve the students working together as a group, getting to know each other a bit better and also working as a team. In just a few weeks we will be venturing down to Phillip Island with them for their first Secondary School camp which we know they are all looking forward to.

We welcome many new faces to our Learning Team this year including; our new Home Group teachers Mrs Amy Broekmann OD1, Mr Shannan Davey OD3 and Miss Irena Arney OD4.

We have a group of different student leaders for our Learning Team this year. They will have an important role in the O'Donoghue team, meeting regularly with other student leaders and working towards having a greater say in our school community.

Our Student Captains for 2016 are Amelia Aliotta, Shona Davis and Leah Gartside.

It is very exciting to have students new to the leadership group and we look forward to working with them this year.

Our Home Group teachers are looking forward to building positive relationships throughout the year with all parents and guardians involved in O'Donoghue. This year, students will be participating in inter-Homegroup challenges to encourage more participation from the Learning Team as a whole, and to continue to foster the positive relationships between students of all year levels.

Our Home group staff are as follows:

O'Donoghue 1 – Ms Amy Broekmann  broekmann.amy.k@edumail.vic.gov.au
O'Donoghue 2 – Mr Jesse Nugent  nugent.jesse.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
O'Donoghue 3 – Mr Shannan Davey davey.shannan.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
O'Donoghue 4 – Ms Irena Arney arney.irena.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
O'Donoghue 5 – Ms Rebecca Hann hann.rebecca.l@edumail.vic.gov.au
O'Donoghue 6 – Ms Brodie Andersen andersen.brodie.b@edumail.vic.gov.au
O'Donoghue 7 – Mr Julian Walton walton.julian.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

At the end of last year we farewelled Miss Stephanie Atkins who has moved on to a different school, and Mrs Hannah Dillon who is no longer a Home Group teacher but still a member of the O'Donoghue Team.

There are many activities for O'Donoghue students to get involved in Term 1 this year including the whole school Swimming Carnival on the 18th February, Home Group competitions, lunchtime games in the Leisure Centre and student voice activities.

Please feel free to contact either of us at any stage throughout the year, we are looking forward to a big year for the O'Donoghue Dragons!!!

Ms Anna Greenstreet
O'Donoghue Student Learning Leader greenstreet.anna.p@edumail.vic.gov.au 8768 1089

Mr Jesse Nugent
Assistant O'Donoghue Student Learning Leader nugent.jesse.d@edumail.vic.gov.au 8768 1089
FLYNN LEARNING TEAM—2016

Welcome to our new Flynn students and staff.
We especially welcome our new Year 7 students and hope they have settled in well to their first couple of weeks of secondary school. We look forward to working with everyone this year and hope to build on the successes of 2015.

Below is the list of our Flynn Home group teachers

Flynn 1 - Ms. Nadine Gibson    gibson.nadine.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
Flynn 2 - Mr. Satya Nadan      nadan.satya.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
Flynn 3 - Ms. Kristen Healey   healey.kristen.e@edumail.vic.gov.au
Flynn 4 - Ms. Kylie Duncan     duncan.kylie.n@edumail.vic.gov.au
Flynn 5 - Mr. Ben Newby        newby.benjamin.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
Flynn 6 - Mr. Adam Nettleingham nettleingham.adam.d@edumail.vic.gov.au
Flynn 7 - Ms. Amy Pyke         pyke.amy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

A reminder to parents that if you have any issue that you would like to discuss about your son/daughter then it is with the home group teacher that you should make your first contact.

Hopefully new parents to the school were able to attend our ‘Meet the Home group teacher’ evening yesterday. This is a great time for home group teachers to get to meet the families of their new students and for new families to become a little more familiar with the school.

The school swimming sports will be held on Thursday 18th February. This is a normal school day and all students must be in attendance. We encourage all Flynn students to come dressed in our team colour (purple) and to enter as many events as possible. The more events that are entered then the more points Flynn will receive.

A reminder to Year 7 students that the Flynn Year 7 camp will be held from Wednesday 9th March to Friday 11th March. This is a terrific opportunity for students to meet new friends, engage with staff in a fun environment and to challenge themselves in a range of outdoor activities.

Michelle Lewis and Adam Nettleingham

HOLLOWS NEWS

After a very successful 2015, the Hollows Team is ready and raring to go this year.

We would like to welcome back our returning home group teachers and students. In particular, welcome to our new home group teacher: Mr Mitch Hammond, who will be the Home Group Teacher of Hollows 3, as well as Assistant Student Learning Leader.

We have 2 very enthusiastic captains this year. Congratulations to Jemma Biggs and Tejeshwar Kalra who have been appointed to this role. They have some great ideas and we have already started working with them.

We also have a wonderful group of students who have volunteered to be part of the leadership team. For those of you who are interested in joining this group, please see Ms Mitchell or Mr Hammond in C1s. Have a great year!

Ms Sally Mitchell and Mr Mitchell Hammond. (Hollows Student Learning Leaders)
A big welcome back to all students and staff and a special welcome to our new year 7 students and those who have arrived from other schools. Kenny also has a new Student Learning Assistant, Ms Campos who will also be home group teacher for Kenny 1. We also welcome Ms Baron to Kenny 5. They are both looking forward to working with the Kenny team.

We have made a great start to the year; lockers have been issued and filled. Year 7s have registered their iPads and will have full connection to the school’s wireless network and everyone is settling in well.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year for all Kenny students during 2016 with term 1 being a busy one with the swimming carnival, school photos, athletics sports, year 7 camp and Wellbeing Day to name a few.

Our new Kenny Captains will head up our student leadership team and we are encouraging students from all year levels to become involved in this group. Our first event as a Learning Team will be Kenny Day which is on the 18th of March. We look forward to seeing “RED” everywhere on that day with lots of activities for one and all.

Our Captains are Larissa Balding and Samantha Lane both year 11 students, pictured:

Our Home group teachers are as follows:-

Kenny 1    Ms Campos    8768 1088
Kenny 2    Ms Marinopoulos 8768 1027
               Ms Edwards 8768 1055
Kenny 3    Mr Couche 8768 1064
Kenny 4    Ms Abernethy 8768 1028
Kenny 5    Ms Baron 8768 1029
Kenny 6    Ms Snowball 8768 1091
Kenny 7    Ms Harig 8768 1027
               Mr Mitchell 8768 1045

Please don’t hesitate to make contact with your child’s home group teacher if necessary.

We enjoyed meeting parents of all new students to the school at our “Meet the Home Group Teacher” evening.

Ms Jenny Hart
Kenny Student Learning Leader
8768 1088

On 17th November, the Berwick College School Council has approved the introduction of Edrolo.

The College, as part of strengthening our learning community through excellence in learning, is pleased to introduce the Edrolo program which will assist our students in performing better in exams, increase confidence and is an excellent tool towards obtaining higher academic results in their VCE studies.

This service provides 24 hour access to our students to additional instruction provided by expert teachers on subjects such as Accounting, Biology, Business Management, Chemistry, English, Further Math, Health & HD, History, Legal Studies, Math Methods, Physical Education, Psychology, Physics, Studio Art and Vis Comm.

The cost to use this program for the year is $25 per subject which is excellent value.

More information will be provided to parents and students in the coming weeks. We are very excited about this new initiative and know our students will make the most of this valuable program to the benefit of their studies, future aspirations and career pathways. More information is available on our website: Edrolo
Welcome back to our Monash students!
As your new leaders we look forward to working with you throughout the year to achieve some amazing results!
A special welcome to our lovely group of Year 7 and new students, we hope you have settled in well and look forward to seeing you participate in the amazing opportunities the college has on offer. We have a range of fun activities planned for homegroups and encourage all students to get involved.
Bring on a successful 2016!!

Miss Erin McCarthy and Mr Costantino

HOME GROUP TEACHERS FOR 2016
Monash 1: Ms Stella Dikeos  dikeos.stella.s@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monash 2: Ms Dewi Soekotjo  soekotjo.dewi.n@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monash 3: Ms Fiona Plant  plant.fiona.f@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monash 4: Mrs Margaret Williamson williamson.margaret.m@edumail.vic.gov.au and Mrs Emma Redmond redmond.emma.l@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monash 5: Mr Chris Pentland  pentland.chris.k@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monash 6: Mr Callum White  white.callum.p@edumail.vic.gov.au
Monash 7: Mr Andrew Tomlin  tomlin.andrew.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

MONASH LEADERS
A big thank you to our Learning Team captains for 2015; Amber Goddard and James O’Hagan. Both students were instrumental in assisting with the planning and running of HG activities and also Monash Day and our fundraiser for the Starlight Children’s Foundation.
We will be electing new Learning Team captains in the coming weeks!

MONASH WEEK 2015
I wanted to thank not only the Learning Team captains but all Monash students who helped make Monash week so successful. Not only did we win the Monash Day activity but we also raised $300 for the Starlight Children’s Foundation through our Bake Sale.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!!!!!!!!!!!!
A huge focus for all Learning Teams is attendance! During HG in Term 1 HG teachers will be setting individual attendance targets with all of our Monash students.
If your son or daughter is absent, it is important that you call the attendance officer Sharyn Collins on 87681051. In addition, please send your son or daughter in with a note to their HG teacher on their return to school.

Another focus of the Home Groups has been report reflections and attendance, this area is extremely important as student results will improve if they have goals and attend every class. Our HG teachers have put a lot of time into this and I am sure all students will benefit.

MIGHTY MONASH

This year’s swim carnival will be held on Thursday February 18th at Doveton Pool.
This is a compulsory day and all students are required to attend. As always there will be range of swimming and novelty events. There is no cost to students. Remember to come well prepared for hot weather – slip, slop, slap.
A Canteen will be open at the venue. Students are not required to wear school uniform but must dress appropriately and as much as possible they should dress in their learning team colours.
Students are not permitted to wear thongs to and from the pool; enclosed shoes are compulsory for safety reasons.
DANCE ACADEMY UPDATE

BERWICK COLLEGE DANCE ACADEMY!

What a start our BCDA students have had to 2016! Our first full week saw us experience TWO auditions for the Victorian State School Spectacular, one for Mass Dance and one for a spot as a featured dancer, guest choreographers for our Year 7 and 8 competition troupes, hip hop and contemporary workshops for our Year 7’s and a lot of sore legs after a good stretch post holidays!

Welcome to Ms. Julie Clish who has joined our BCDA team! Julie will be teaching our Year 9 course and you can contact her on clish.julie.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Just a reminder that our DanceStar Competition will be held on May 14th & 15th (students will only be needed on one of these days) and our Berwick College Choreographic Competition will be held at the school on Sunday, 5th of June.

Miss Melissa Quenette
Director of Dance

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back everyone and a very warm welcome to all our new students

Your library is open before school from 8.30am until 4.30pm. We are closed at recess but open at lunchtime for activities. You are very welcome to come in and please introduce yourself to the Library Ladies.

"Books are a uniquely portable magic." Stephen King, author

The Library Ladies
ORIENTATION DAY—YEAR 12

On Thursday February 4, the 275 Year 12 students visited Monash University – Berwick Campus for our Orientation Day. The orientation day, organised by Year 12 coordinators, Chris Sacco and Lexie McGill, was both crucial to our year twelve and also had an impact on our lives.

In the morning, we listened to a detailed presentation of assessment and expectations of Year 12s. It did not only help us to be informed but also to know what is was expected of us as we are “biggest faces of the school” as miss McGill says.

We were then presented with information from Monash University Chisholm Institute. This gave us invaluable information about our future pathways! We were given extra information that would influence our future choice positively. Mietta from Elevate Education and a current university student, really opened up her perspective of study designs in year 12. This was great as she was able to relate to us!

The VCAL students really got moved by the motivational speech presented by former AFL player, Glenn Manton. The realistic aspect of life that was expressed to them gave them an eye-opening experience of what they should and shouldn’t do.

Our final guest speaker was Paralympian, Ahmed Kelly. He motivated us to always strive for our goals! He was able to join a footy team in his young age and swim in the Paralympics which really inspired us of how much more we could do considering we are fortunate enough to hands and legs!!

The Year 12 Orientation Day was a great day. We would like to thank the guest speakers for giving up their time to talk to us! Also, we would also like to thank Principal Mrs Bolch, Assistant Principal Mrs Birkett and all other teachers who came and supported us!

Written by School Captain Joshua Angwenyi

Year 12 Captains with Paralympian, Ahmed Kelly
Year 12 VCAL Students and Glenn Manton
The start of 2016 has seen a busy start for our VCAL and ALP students.

**ALP**

On Tuesday 2\(^{nd}\) February ALP students commenced the ‘Circle Program’ at Chisholm Institute of TAFE. This provides students with a range of trade and industry taster experiences that may help them to define a VET choice for later VCAL levels. In term 1 students undertake a unit in Building and Construction, in term 2 students undertake Hospitality units and in terms 3 and 4 they will complete a blended unit in entrepreneurial skills. On their first visit to Chisholm students received a tour of the areas they will be working in. All students must have a Unique Student Identification (USI) number to be able to participate. This can be accessed at [www.usi.gov.au](http://www.usi.gov.au). Please see Ms. Duhau or the careers office if you need assistance with this.

**VCAL**

Year 10, 11 and 12 VCAL students have been working hard towards their first lot of outcomes. Year 12 students in particular have been busy planning for the Casey Relay for Life at Akoonah Park on March 4\(^{th}\) and 5\(^{th}\). Students are organising their fundraising tasks and organising all the materials needed for the event. This is one of the major assessment tasks for Year 12 VCAL Personal Development Skills.

Year 12 VCAL students attended the Year 12 Orientation day at Monash University Berwick Campus on Thursday 4\(^{th}\) February. The VCAL students participated in a session related to relationships and resilience, run by former Carlton player, Glen Manton. We hope this has inspired them to work hard to achieve their goals.

Mrs Corinne Duhau
UNIFORM

Please ensure all uniform is labelled to ensure it is returned to the rightful owner.

IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisation cards have been distributed to the Year 7 students this week.

The immunisation dates are:-

Tuesday 15th March  - HPV 1st dose
Tuesday 17th May   - HPV 2nd dose and Boostrix
Friday  7th October -HPV 3rd dose and Chickenpox

Please return the cards by FRIDAY 12th FEBRUARY to the Home Group teacher.

IF YOUR CHILD NEEDS MEDICAL ATTENTION

Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

These costs may be recoverable where it is assessed that it is likely, in all the circumstances, that the injury was caused by the negligence (carelessness) acts or omissions of its staff/volunteers.

Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from commercial insurers.

UNIFORM QUESTIONS

The new uniform that was introduced in 2014 has made a very positive impact. Parents please note that the girl’s dresses, both summer and winter, are knee length and are not to be taken up.

There are few students are wearing nose rings and these are not permitted. Students are permitted to wear one piece of facial jewellery and this is to be a simple stud; not a ring or part ring. Bars are also not permitted. Students out of school uniform will be issued with an afterschool detention.

Frequently asked questions

1: Do I have to buy both the summer and winter uniform items?

No, students can choose to wear the summer uniform or the winter uniform all year.

2: Can my child wear the rugby top at any time?

No, the rugby top is used only for physical education and interschool sporting events.

3: Can my child wear the jacket at any time?

Yes, the jacket can be worn any time of the day.

4: Can my daughter wear shorts as part of the new uniform?

No, there are no girl’s shorts as part of the new school uniform.

5: My child is in year 10 and is growing fast, what uniform do I buy?

You might be able to purchase old uniform items from the Sustainable School Shop, see our website for details; otherwise you will need to purchase the new uniform.

6: My child is in year 11, do I have to buy the new uniform?

No, your child can wear the ‘old’ uniform in 2016

7: Can my son wear leather dress shoes?

No, boys can only wear traditional black hard leather ‘oxford’ style (round toe) shoes with black laces.

8: Can my child wear the sports uniform to school when they have physical education at the start of the day?

No, students must wear the academic uniform to school however if your child has physical education at the end of the day they are permitted to wear the sports uniform home.

9: Can my child wear track pants at any time?

No, track pants are only used for physical education and interschool sporting events.

10: Is it compulsory to buy a blazer?

Although blazers are recommended they are not compulsory.

11: Can my child wear non-Berwick College trousers or shorts?

No, students must wear the College trousers or shorts.

12: Is it correct that all students are to be in the new uniform by 2016?

No, students can wear the old uniform until it is too small or is worn out.

13: Can my daughter wear tights with the summer dress?

No, girls can only wear tights with the winter skirt.
**BERWICK COLLEGE UNIFORM – YEARS 7, 8 & 9 - Students enrolled at the College in 2013 or before can wear the ‘old’ uniform**

The uniform should be worn correctly and neatly. No notes are accepted for incorrect jackets or school jumpers. Due to safety issues, staff must be able to recognise Berwick College students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>Boys – Academic uniform</th>
<th>Girls – Academic uniform</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL JUMPER</td>
<td>Pullover or Vest with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Pullover or Vest with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Royal blue: Year 7, Year 8 &amp; Year 9</td>
<td>Royal blue: Year 7, Year 8 &amp; Year 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Navy blue: Year 10, Year 11 &amp; Year 12</td>
<td>Navy blue: Year 10, Year 11 &amp; Year 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHORTS</td>
<td>Grey Melange shorts with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Berwick College Summer Dress (knee length)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIRT</td>
<td>White Short Sleeve Shirt with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Long Sleeve White Opaque Blouse with Berwick College logo. To be worn with the skirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR White Long Sleeve Shirt with Berwick College logo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKIRT</td>
<td>Berwick College Winter Skirt (knee length)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROUSERS</td>
<td>Grey Melange Trousers with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Navy Slacks with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIE</td>
<td>Tie with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Tie with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not compulsory but recommended</td>
<td>Not compulsory but recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCKS / TIGHTS</td>
<td>Plain short grey socks (above ankle)</td>
<td>Plain short white socks (above ankle) with the summer dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Navy Tights or short plain navy socks (above ankle) with winter skirt</td>
<td>Navy Tights or short plain navy socks (above ankle) with winter skirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Tights or navy socks are NOT to be worn with the summer dress</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLAZER</td>
<td>Blazer with braid and Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Blazer with braid and Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not compulsory, but highly recommended</td>
<td>Not compulsory, but highly recommended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACKET</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Jacket with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Jacket with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHOES</td>
<td>Traditional black hard leather ‘oxford style’ round toe school shoe.</td>
<td>Traditional black hard leather ‘oxford style’ round toe school shoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Black laces. No other style of footwear is acceptable.</td>
<td>OR buckle style. Black laces. No other style of footwear is acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boys – Sports Uniform</td>
<td>Girls – Sports Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOP</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Sports Polo with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Sports Polo with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHORTS</td>
<td>Navy Sports Shorts with logo</td>
<td>Navy Sports Shorts with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRACKPANTS</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Microfibre Trackpants with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Microfibre Trackpants with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUGBY TOP</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Rugby Top with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Navy / White / Royal Rugby Top with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOTWEAR</td>
<td>Appropriate sports footwear e.g. runners (not skate shoes)</td>
<td>Appropriate sports footwear e.g. runners (not skate shoes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPORT HAT</td>
<td>Hat or cap for sun protection</td>
<td>Hat or cap for sun protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BAG</td>
<td>Navy school bag with Berwick College logo</td>
<td>Navy school bag with Berwick College logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No other bag allowed – Compulsory for Yr 7 in 2014</td>
<td>No other bag allowed– Compulsory for Yr 7 in 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMISSIBLE JEWELLERY</td>
<td>All allowable jewellery is worn at the owner’s risk. Students are permitted to wear: one watch, one plain bracelet (removable), one plain finger ring (removable), one neck chain (worn under clothing), one plain ear stud or sleeper per ear. One piece of discreet facial jewellery, as defined by the Principal class of the college, such as eyebrow studs, chin studs, nose studs – no rings or sleeper Note: Jewellery that does not comply with the above or is considered a health and safety risk will be required to be removed, eg. large rings, jewellery with spikes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERMISSIBLE MAKE UP/HAIR COLOUR.</td>
<td>Natural coloured cosmetics only. Excessive make-up is not permitted. Only natural hair colour tones are acceptable.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Berwick College Newsletter — Issue 1 2016 17
The uniform should be worn correctly and neatly. No notes are accepted for incorrect jackets or school jumpers. Due to safety issues, staff must be able to recognise Berwick College students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JACKET</td>
<td>Regulation BSC Jacket only. Logo and name of sanctioned sporting team or leadership position allowed.</td>
<td>Regulation BSC Jacket only. Logo and name of sanctioned sporting team or leadership position allowed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL JUMPER</td>
<td><strong>BOYS</strong></td>
<td><strong>GIRLS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 8 - 10</td>
<td>Year 11 - 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Royal blue V-neck pull-over OR royal blue school polar fleece top</td>
<td>Royal blue V-neck pull-over OR royal blue school polar fleece top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIRT</td>
<td>Sky blue polo shirt with school logo OR regulation sky blue shirt - summer and winter.</td>
<td>Sky blue polo shirt with school logo OR regulation sky blue shirt - summer and winter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-SHIRT (Short sleeve)</td>
<td>A white t-shirt may be worn under regulation sky blue shirt. No collars allowed. Sleeves are not to be visible under shirt.</td>
<td>A white t-shirt may be worn under regulation sky blue shirt. No collars allowed. Sleeves are not to be visible under shirt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROUSERS</td>
<td>Regulation college tailored grey pants – “Hard Yakka” type.</td>
<td>Tailored navy cotton/polyester blend bootleg pants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHORTS</td>
<td>Regulation grey tailored shorts <strong>Longer leg style only</strong>.</td>
<td>Regulation navy tailored shorts <strong>Longer leg style only</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SKIRT</td>
<td>Regulated BSC</td>
<td>Regulated BSC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUMMER DRESS/SKIRT</td>
<td></td>
<td>Regulated BSC summer dress (Year 7-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPORTS UNIFORM</td>
<td>Regulation BSC top</td>
<td>Regulation BSC top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Regulation BSC shorts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hat/cap for sun protection</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCKS</td>
<td>Grey OR white (above ankle)</td>
<td>Navy OR white (above ankle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIGHTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAT (Recommended)</td>
<td>Navy wide brim hat with BSC logo OR navy surf hat</td>
<td>Navy wide brim with BSC logo OR navy surf hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOTWEAR</td>
<td>Traditional black hard leather ‘oxford style’ round toe school shoe. Black laces. No other style of foot- wear is acceptable.</td>
<td>Traditional black hard leather ‘oxford style’ round toe school shoe OR buckle style. Black laces. No other style of foot- wear is acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIE (optional)</td>
<td>School tie</td>
<td>School tie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and if they don’t maintain regular attendance, it is unlikely they will be successful at school. In fact, the benefits go well beyond their years at school as research shows that regular attendance:

- Develops skills and attitudes such as self-discipline, punctuality and being well organised. These skills help students to become “work ready.” Regular attendance at school is more likely to be translated into the workforce.
- Leads to making friends and learning how to maintain relationships over a period of time.
- Leads to learning social skills necessary to live and work with others.
- Promotes learning, performance and enjoyment of school.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

Speak with your child’s home group teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

For long term absences develop an absence learning plan with your child’s home group teacher and student learning leader and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, inform the school early as early as possible. See below for information.

**Chisholm, Frost, Hollows, Monash, Year 12**

Absence line: 8768 1051 (24 hours) to speak to Sharyn or leave a message

OR

Go to the website http://www.berwickcollege.vic.edu.au and scroll down to Attendance – learn more and provide details and email will be forwarded to Sharyn

OR

Email directly to berwick.college.attendance@gmail.com or via tiqbiz

**Dunlop, Flynn, Kenny, O’Donoghue**

Absence line: 8768 1086 (24 hours) to speak to Robyn or leave a message

OR

Go to the website http://www.berwickcollege.vic.edu.au and scroll down to Attendance – learn more and provide details and email will be forwarded to Robyn

OR

Email directly to berwick.college.attendance@gmail.com or via tiqbiz

Please provide a note or email to your child’s home group teacher on return of your child to school (this is a legal requirement even if you have called the absence line)

From 1 March 2014, new laws were put in place such that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Remember, student attendance makes a difference to student learning outcomes.
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BERWICK SHOW DATES: Saturday Feb 27th & Sunday Feb 28th
Traditionally this provides schools and students an opportunity to show case their Art Work in the community providing an authentic audience for our budding artists. This year the School’s Exhibition will be sponsored by ZART ART, a well known art supplier to our schools who pride themselves in supporting local schools and communities. The Art Show this year will be judged by Leanne Hutchinson who is a local artist.

BERWICK CFA IS NOW RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS
WE NEED MORE MEN AND WOMEN TO JOIN THE BERWICK CFA VOLUNTEER FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
IF YOU ARE 18 YEARS OR OLDER AND PREFERABLY WITH SOME DAYTIME AVAILABILITY
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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    - Level 2
    - Level 3
  - Song, Tap & Jazz

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52-62 Old Princes Hwy, Beaconsfield
Ph: 9769 9093

Dr Robert Panjkov
B.D.Sc (Melb) and Associates
9707 3508
1-3 Cardinia St, Berwick 3806
beaconsfielddental.com.au

64,000 in community contributions
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and to your community.
Drop into your nearest branch at 52-62 Old
Princes Highway, Beaconsfield or phone
9769 5122.

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