CONGRATULATION TO TARAGO !!!

First time lucky this year! Due to strong rain the night before the carnival, it looked like potentially another wet day for a NDSC Athletics Carnival. But after a wet morning, the afternoon turned out to be optimal conditions to run in. There were strong performances from many students from each house, and it came down to the final few events to decide the winning house.

Congratulations to Tarago for winning on the day, and all students who participated in the carnival.

House results
1st = Tarago  
2nd = Monash  
3rd = Kurnai  
4th = Strzelecki

Age group champions
15 and under boys – Jack de Kock  
15 and under girls – Cassidy Holland  
16 and over boys – Mitchell Sayburn, Kyle Clarke and Justin Lockett  
16 and over girls – Bronte Harvey

Our Sponsors
We would like to thank all of our generous sponsors for their support throughout this year. With your continued generosity and commitment we have been able to improve the educational opportunities available to students. We strongly encourage our parents and the wider community to please support these wonderful local businesses that sponsor our school so well.
**Principal’s Report**

**Motivating Teenagers**

Further to the article on motivating teenagers in the last newsletter, I thought parents might find the following psychological phenomenon interesting: Cognitive Dissonance.

Cognitive dissonance can make us feel tense and uncomfortable. It arises when we have conflicting thoughts in our head and/or we receive feedback which contradicts the way in which we want to see ourselves, e.g. I believe I am a good person, but I have done something bad. Or, I think I am a good person but someone is telling me that I’m not.

Dissonance increases with:

- The importance of the subject to us.
- How strongly the dissonant thoughts conflict.
- Our inability to rationalize and explain away the conflict.
- Cognitive dissonance is a powerful motivator. As a consequence of dissonance, we want to change one of the conflicting beliefs or actions in order to feel better.

To achieve this, we usually take one of three actions, (we can do this in either a positive or negative way):

- **We change our behaviour** - 1. Stealing makes me feel bad, so I don’t do it. 2. I continue the behaviour, i.e. stealing, but do it in a way which does not create dissonance, for example, instead of stealing from a shop, I seek ways to steal online.
- **We justify our behaviour by changing the conflicting cognition** – 1. I understand that when I am stressed, I make poor decisions; therefore, my new cognition is that I need to manage my stress. 2. When I am stressed, I make poor decisions; people need to stop making me stressed so that I stop making poor decisions.
- **Justify our behaviour by adding new cognitions**. 1. I am not a bad person for stealing, but I admit that I made a mistake. I am human and fallible is the new cognition. 2. The shop owner was mean to me; therefore this is what I focus on, ignoring my behaviour but focusing on the other person’s perceived misbehaviour.

Dissonance is most powerful when it is about our self-image. Feelings of foolishness, immorality and so on are dissonance in action.

If an action has been completed and cannot be undone, then the after-the-fact dissonance compels us to change our beliefs. If beliefs are moved, then the dissonance appears during decision-making, forcing us to take actions we would not have taken before.

Cognitive dissonance appears in virtually all evaluations and decisions and is the central mechanism by which we experience new differences in the world. When we see other people behave differently to our images of them, when we hold any conflicting thoughts, we experience dissonance.

Dissonance increases with the importance and impact of the decision, along with the difficulty of reversing it. Discomfort about making the wrong choice of car is bigger than when choosing a lamp. In students, we often see dissonance when they know they are in trouble and when deciding on their course of action in response to conflict.

Vaya Cross
Principal

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**Calendar of Events**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dates to Remember</th>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>Sunday 1</td>
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<td>VCAL Stall at Longwarry Market</td>
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<td>Friday 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 VCE &amp; Careers Expo, Caulfield Racecourse</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18</td>
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<td>Year 10 Federation University Visit, Churchill</td>
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<td>Thursday 19</td>
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<td>CEA 9 Jewish Holocaust Centre</td>
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<td>Wednesday 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 5 &amp; 6 Discovery Day and Parent Information Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 26</td>
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<td>CEA 9 Victoria Market</td>
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**Sponsor of the Week**

**Welcome to our newest sponsor**

**The Little Flea Store**

Pop in to see Bec Ladds and check out all of the great ideas for mothers day!

This week’s winner is Cooper Dobell of year 8. Well done Cooper, a gift voucher from The Little Flea Store is on its way to you.
**GOOD NEWS POSTCARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received a good news postcard: Amanda Swain, Jack Mahoney, Karin Martin and Cooper Orwin.

**PBS LINK IS HERE!**

Don’t forget to register details of receiving a postcard by ringing the office on 5628 1455 to go in the draw to win a community sponsored prize.

**PBS IS A MARATHON. NOT A SPRINT.**

**FEDERATION UNIVERSITY VISIT**

An enthusiastic group of students with interests in Nursing, Health Science & Psychology spent a day at Federation University recently learning about future tertiary options available to them.

**DISCOVERY DAY**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 25th**

**9am - 3.20pm**

**DISCOVERY DAY – NEERIM DISTRICT SECONDARY COLLEGE**

Neerim District Secondary College invites students in the Tarago Education Community and interested Grade 5 & 6 students from other schools to attend a Discovery Day.

During the day, students will participate in a number of classes and explore the wonderful world of Science and Technology.

All students will experiment, make, and cook on the day.

If you are a TEC student or considering Neerim District Secondary College in the future, we invite you to participate in this day and experience learning at NDSC. Come and see why our students are Connected, Community Proud, and Globally Ready.

Please RSVP to the School Office on (03)56281455 by Friday May 14th to reserve your child’s place.

Parent information session will run later that evening (6.30 – 7.30pm)

**THE OUTPOST**

**Restaurat, Fish & Chips Bar/ Bistro**

**Accommodation**

**NOOSIE**

**NEERIM SOUTH MILK BAR & TAKEAWAY**

**133 Main Neerim Rd Neerim South**

**Ph: 5628 1454**

**Neerim South Hotel**

**Bar | Bistro | Bottle Shop**

**91-109 Main Neerim Rd Neerim South**

**Ph: 5628 1431 Fax: 5628 1093**

**SURFERS COFFEE**

**108 Main Neerim Rd Neerim South**

**Ph: 5628 1476**

**DEJA-VU**

**HAIR & BODY**

**Phone 5628 1513**

**129 Main Road, Neerim South 3831**

**Neerim District Community Bank Branch**

**Bendigo Bank**

**NEERIM SOUTH MERRYMAKERS**

**121 Main Neerim Rd Neerim South**

**Ph: 5628 1513**

**THE ARTISAN**

**Homemade Wooden Toys**

**Phone 5628 1498**

**119 Main Road, Neerim South 3831**

**Our Sponsors**

A big thanks to all of our generous sponsors for their support throughout the year. Please support the wonderful local businesses that sponsor our school so well.
2. **Reminders:**

- Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) – Register by: 3 June; Test date: 27 July (for Monash Medicine)
- ‘INSIDE MONASH’ SEMINARS: 26 April – Architecture; 27 April – Interior Architecture; 28 April – Psychology; Information and Bookings: [www.monash.edu/inside-monash](http://www.monash.edu/inside-monash)

1. **VCE AND CAREERS EXPO 2016 REMINDER** – This annual event is coming up VERY soon. It’s a great opportunity to start collecting information and to talk with representatives from a wide range of education providers. It is thoroughly recommended for student in Years 10-12. Hopefully Year 12 students have already done a lot of career research and they will find Open Days at institutions particularly useful as well. Universities, TAFE and training providers will be at the EXPO, along with GAP year and study advisers. **When:** Thurs 5 – Sun 8 May; **Where:** Caulfield Racecourse; **Admissions:** $10 and $25 per family; **Information:** [www.vceandcareers.com.au](http://www.vceandcareers.com.au).

2. **WHY RESEARCH CAREERS?** Researching ideas for careers and training while at school is becoming increasingly important. With automation of many jobs developing rapidly, many unskilled jobs (and some skilled jobs as well) are rapidly disappearing. A willingness to obtain qualifications and to re-train when necessary will be VITAL for a young person’s future. It is believed that at least Certificate III level qualifications (preferably higher) will be essential to obtain on-going work (ie Certificate IV, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas and Degrees).

Resilience, determination, and education will be essential to remain in employment. Remember too, the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) careers. These are some of the areas offering growth and opportunity in employment. Research shows that 75% of the fastest-growing occupations now require STEM skills, so we must build a workforce of tech-savvy future employees. Digital literacy is vital for everyone. The digital revolution has led to many new jobs and new ones will develop that we have never begun to think of.

An excellent website to check out is [www.joboutlook.gov.au](http://www.joboutlook.gov.au). Here you will find details of what jobs involve, average salaries, and, perhaps more importantly, the likelihood of employment growth in that job.

3. **‘INSIDE MONASH’ SEMINARS CONTINUE** – If you would like to explore courses and careers at Monash University, then book into the ‘Inside Monash’ Seminar series as it continues into May with the following sessions:

   - 3 May – Teaching
   - 4 May – Music
   - 5 May – Information Technology
   - 10 May – Teaching
   - 11 May – Medicine and Biomedical science
   - 12 May – Engineering
   - 17 May – Science Advanced
   - 18 May – Law
   - 19 May – Health Sciences
   - 25 May – Biomedical science, Radiography, and Nutrition and Dietetics.

Information and Bookings: [www.monash.edu/inside-monash](http://www.monash.edu/inside-monash).

4. **‘FOCUS ON MELBOURNE’ SEMINAR DATES** – These seminars provide a great opportunity for you to check out University of Melbourne courses and careers. The series continues with:

   - 19 May – Focus on Biomedicine
   - 24 May – Focus on Agriculture
   - 25 May – Focus on Information Technology
   - 31 May – Focus on Science


DREAMING OF FLYING? Discover how you can make it happen at the Lilydale Flying School by attending the Flying School Open Day. Speak with pilots and instructors and discover career and recreation pathways in Aviation. You can find out about career pathways including air traffic control, air force and commercial pilot applications. Also included will be a BBQ, tours, speakers, displays, a women pilots forum, and competitions. **When:** 12 noon – 4pm, Sat 30 April; **Where:** 13 MacIntyre Lane, Yering. **Info:** [www.yarravalleyaviation.com.au](http://www.yarravalleyaviation.com.au), [info@yarravalleyaviation.com.au](mailto:info@yarravalleyaviation.com.au).

5. **INDIGENOUS ENGINEERING WINTER SCHOOL** – Do you like to solve problems, like working with your hands and fixing things, and are interested in making the world a better place? If yes, then engineering might be the career for you. Melbourne, Swinburne, RMIT and Monash Universities are collaborating to bring the 2016 Victorian Indigenous Engineering Winter School (VIEWS). This is a 5-day program where students will experience first-hand the work of engineers, meet Indigenous engineering professionals, discover pathways to engineering, explore four university campuses and hopefully open up a world of possibilities in engineering. **Who:** Year 11 and 12 students; **When:** Mon 4 - Sat 9 July (applications close 9 May); **Cost:** No charge; **Info:** [http://www.eng.unimelb.edu.au/engage/indigenous/views](http://www.eng.unimelb.edu.au/engage/indigenous/views); **Info:** [eng-views@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:eng-views@unimelb.edu.au).
7. **INDIGENOUS STUDENT EXPERIENCE MONASH DAY** – Want to get a taste of university life? The Indigenous Student Experience Day is a chance for secondary students to get a hands on experience of what Monash has to offer. There will be interactive sessions where participants will be able to select areas of study they are interested in. Meet staff and students in all study areas, find out about how to apply for university and what support is available for Indigenous students. **When:** 10am – 2pm, Fri 24 June (lunch included); **Where:** Robert Blackwood Hall, Clayton campus; **Book:** kristel.keleher@monash.edu, Ph 9905 8699. See [www.monash.edu.au/study/life/indigenous](http://www.monash.edu.au/study/life/indigenous). A free event sponsored by Yulendj – Indigenous Engagement Unit.

8. **CONNECT WITH DEAKIN AT MELBOURNE KNOWLEDGE WEEK** – The Faculty of Science, Engineering and Built Environment at Deakin University is hosting a number of free events during Knowledge Week – **See:** [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/knowledgeweek](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/knowledgeweek) for details of events and bookings. Some are in the city in school time, but parents may be interested to attend as well:
   - **Building Startups** the Silicon Valley Way, at Deakin Edge (Federation Square), 6.30-8pm 2 May, Free – book online
   - **Virtual Reality Lounge** – MKW Festival Hub, 1000 Pound Bend, 361 Little Collins St, Melbourne, 10am-10pm, 2 May – 8 May; free, book online or drop in
   - **Life in the Cyber-Physical World**, MKW Festival Hub, 6-7pm, 5 May; Free, book online
   - **Seven Billion Reasons for Staying Cybersmart and Cybersafe** – MKW Festival Hub, 12.10-12.55pm, 5 May; Free, book online
   - **Girls in Stem; Making it Happen** – Deakin City Centre, Level 3, 550 Bourke St; 1-3.30pm, 5 May; Free, book online.

More information on Deakin events: [sebe-mkw@deakin.edu.au](mailto:sebe-mkw@deakin.edu.au).

**SO YOU WANT TO BE A GRAPHIC DESIGNER** – Graphic Designers make visual communications for reproduction in print and electronic media (newspapers, books, magazines and websites). They also develop images for corporate use and advertising.
Qualifications can be gained from VET (TAFE) providers and at university. Many TAFEs offer Diplomas in Graphic Design (eg RMIT, Box Hill, Swinburne, Vic Uni) as do private providers like the Academy of Design Australia and Tractor Design.
University Graphic Design courses are often called Bachelor of Communication Design. These are offered at Monash, RMIT and Swinburne universities. At Deakin, the course is called the Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Communication Design).

Compiled by: m.walker

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

⇒ **WANTED STALL HOLDERS and Musicians** for our NEW WINTER MARKET at JD Algie Hall, Main Road, Neerim South on Saturday 11th JUNE; Saturday 9th JULY and Saturday 13th AUGUST. All sites under cover. Ample parking for visitors and stall holders. For BOOKINGS or ENQUIRIES, please call Deb on 5628 1234 or 0417 748 884.

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**BIGGEST MORNING TEA**

Thursday 12th May at 10.00 am

NEERIM JUNCTION HALL

Come along and have some fun, quizzes, games and of course FOOD!!!

Raising morning for Cancer research.

Neerim District Junior Football Club - We are still looking for players for Under 12’s and Under 14’s. Numbers will be capped at 20 so players are assured a game every week. Travel and financial support available. Please contact Secretary for more information on 0403 521 458.