

Wycheproof P-12 College

A State school established in 1876



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www.wychep12.vic.edu.au



Newsletter No. 1 - 10th February, 2022

Welcome Back to Term 1 – 2022

Holidays seem to go quickly and there is always something to look forward to with each new year. Hopefully it will be an uninterrupted year with a full camp and sports program taking place. They are important school events which are fabulous memories for children to have. This year we will have Kath Brennan joining us as a new face in our team. Kath will be helping to support various classes. Loretta Beattie, Steph Coffey, Whitney Boyle (and later in the year – Tessa Coles and Siobhan McLennan) will also be re-joining our team and many of our students already know these staff well. Most of our staff are part time and as such will not be here every day. We will be busier than ever and as such we ask that you do come and see us if you have any concerns or if your child is unhappy. There are many positives about our school, but the outstanding factor is our students. However, that does not mean we do not need to remind them sometimes about what constitutes respectful behaviours. Please make an appointment though, as every day is extremely busy. This is because ensuring that a quality teaching and learning program is in place is our priority. We are looking forward to taking our students outside even more this year and making the most of the amazing natural habitat that we have at the base of the 'World's Smallest Mountain.' Building a connection with nature is great for everyone's mental health. We are looking forward to getting to know our new students and their families throughout 2022.

CODE RED DAYS - FIRE WARNING & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

We are a Category 4 School (rating in Emergency Management) which will mean that on a CODE RED DAY our school will be closed. No buses will run. If you remember back to November 2019 – they closed us overnight due to such a rating. Generally we will know a couple of days in advance if this is likely to occur but it will be determined usually by 1pm the day before. No one is to be on-site if that occurs. Even on EXTREME WEATHER DAYS we still need to be very alert as to what is happening. If a CODE RED DAY is declared we may need to get students out quickly if they are on camp, or, we may need to cancel, or even, keep students there an extra day (if they are supposed to be travelling out that day). Of course EXCURSIONS will not take place on a CODE RED DAY and even on an EXTREME WEATHER DAY, we may decide to cancel an excursion. Our climate is changing and becoming hotter and the wind can be very gusty. Notices will also be sent out via XUNO and hopefully there will be enough warning that we can tell students during the day.

Christine McKersie - Principal

2022 DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

Wed	16	Yr 10 Class Speeches
Thur	17	Yr 9 Class Speeches
Fri	18	Yr 5/6 & 7 Class Speeches
Wed	23	Public Speaking Competition
Thur	24	Lions Youth of the Year
Mon	28	Fit 2 Drive (Yr 11)

MARCH

Tue - Fri	1-4	Yr 7/8 Camp
Mon	7	NCD Swimming @ St Arnaud
Thur	10	NCD Triathlon @ Boort
Thur	17	LMR Swimming @ Swan Hill

APRIL

Fri	8	Last day Term 1 (2:30pm finish)
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Record Breaking Relay Teams



Yr 11/12 Girls Freestyle
Libby Thompson
Ella Sheahan
Kate Thompson
Hayley Matheson



Yr 11/12 Girls Medley
Demi Matheson
Kate Thompson
Ella Sheahan
Hayley Matheson



Yr 5/6 Girls Medley
Libby Thompson
Dakota Connolly
Tessa Sheahan
Hayley Yasa

Wycheproof P-12 College ~ "Be Your Best"

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS - 2022.

Every year at this time, School Council membership comes up for nomination (and if necessary) election/re-election and this year we are seeking one parent member to join or re-nominate for our School Council after our first meeting on the **9th February**. We would sincerely like to thank **Brett Thompson** who has been our **School Council President** and we thank him for his support, advice and direction over the past few years and hope that he considers re-nominating. Brett attended our Valedictory Dinner at the end of last year which was fabulous as it is always an event which is a highlight in our school program and an important occasion to farewell our current group of Year 12s. There is currently a **vacancy** in the **Community Member Category** (School Council can co-opt someone to fill this position or it can remain vacant). Only one DET position is needed to be filled/or re-nomination – **Claire Ison** (her two-year term has finished). One of our secondary students (**Savannah Nicholls**) has finished her two-year term and again we are hoping that Savannah considers re-nominating. If there are more nominations than positions, there will be a requirement to have an election. Council is an important body of the school organisation and is responsible for the operations of the school.

EVENT

2022 DATE

a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Thursday 3rd Feb
b)	Closing date for nomination	4pm Thursday 24th February
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominations will be posted	Friday 25th February
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed (if needed – that is more nominations received than positions vacant)	On or before Thursday 3rd March
e)	Close of ballot	Thursday 10th March
f)	Vote count (will only occur if needed)	Friday 11th March
g)	Declaration of ballot (will only occur if needed)	Tuesday 15th March
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt Community Member (the principal will preside)	Wednesday 16th March
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Wednesday 16th March

School Council Elections – Information for Parents

WHAT IS A SCHOOL COUNCIL AND WHAT DOES IT DO? All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

WHO IS ON THE SCHOOL COUNCIL? There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR ALL MEMBERS IS TWO YEARS. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

WHY IS PARENT MEMBERSHIP SO IMPORTANT? Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

HOW CAN YOU BECOME INVOLVED? The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

DO I NEED SPECIAL EXPERIENCE TO BE ON SCHOOL COUNCIL? No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO TO STAND FOR ELECTION? The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. If you decide to stand for election, **you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category**. DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

REMEMBER

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections (if there is one that occurs at our school – that is, if the number of nominations outnumbers the number of vacancies).

Contact the principal for further information.

Christine McKersie - Principal

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2022 PARENT PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Wycheproof P-12 College works in close partnership with parents and the broader school community to provide the best educational opportunities and outcomes for students both inside and outside the classroom. Through this partnership, parents understand that the contribution they make to their children's education, in all its various forms, has

an important role in enriching our school's learning and teaching program and improving educational outcomes. The commitment from parents to contribute, benefits students and results in improved achievement outcomes, wellbeing and engagement in learning. This is why parent contribution is highly valued by the Wycheproof P-12 College school community.

Information regarding the 2022 Parent Payment Arrangements has been sent home with every student. Further details are also available on our website <http://www.wycep12.vic.edu.au/> or you can contact the school office - 5493 7409, if you have any queries.



Wycheproof Narraport Demons



Junior Netball Training

with Suzanna & Til

Fitness - Tuesdays 5:00pm

Skills - Thursdays 5:00pm

New players welcome!



Monday
Date
TBC

2022 YEAR LEVEL COORDINATORS

P/1/2	MRS NIKKI COATSWORTH
YR 3/4	MRS AMY BOTHERAS
YR 5/6	MISS TARYN SMITH
YR 7/8	MISS SUZANNA FAWCETT
YR 9/10	MS CHRISTINE MCKERSIE
YR 11/12	MRS CLAIRE ISON



Do you have Lego lying around not getting used? The library will gratefully accept whatever you have.

**XUNO
FAMILY**

In 2022 the school will be progressing to the XUNO app from the Skoolbag app. You will be contacted and set up with an account and password in the coming weeks if you have not already.

A friendly reminder for students with Medical conditions!

Please ensure your action plans, management plans and care plans are current and that if you require medication at school that the school has your medication and that it has not expired.

Please contact the office for any further enquiries. Ph: 5493 7409



WYCHEPROOF P-12 COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

The school newsletter is available fortnightly on Thursdays, via internet (visit www.wycep12.vic.edu.au/), through the XUNOfamily app, or hard copy from the newsagency.

Next Edition...

Thursday, 24th February, 2022

2021 INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS



Perfect blue skies and milder temperatures greeted us for a great day at this years event. Crowds were down due to Covid implications but those who attended saw some epic races unfold and a bit of controversy with the points scoring throughout the day which was rectified at the close of play. The winning house was again Broadway although an Excel spreadsheet hiccup had Calder in front for most of the day which gave them hope of finally topping the tables in 2022. In the end it wasn't to be and it was another convincing win by Broadway who scored 1092 points to Calder's 845. We

were all treated to a rap from our Assistant Principal Mrs. Ison to help celebrate the victory (Kanye & Tyler the Creator had better watch out for her).

NCD swimming will be held in week 6 so this gives all our chosen representatives plenty of time to train up with Jan Elder and Suzi Thompson after school and in PE classes. We have a chance to go back to back in the overall shield which will be an amazing result for such a small school. Go Wyche.

WINNERS!!!

Broadway House Captains

Hunter Connolly & Hayley Matheson



Individual Age Champions >>

(Back L-R):

Yr 9/10

Demi Matheson

Tom Cotton

Yr 11/12

Kate Thompson

Joe Coles

Yr 7/8

Darcy Coles

Libby Thompson

(Front L-R)

Yr 5/6

Mitchell Coatsworth

Kelly Hogan

Yr 3/4

Finbar Polzin

Jewels Barton



Xavier McKersie Lilly Pritchard



Cooper Allan & Henry Pardella

2022 New Records

Event / metres	Age	Name	House	Time
Freestyle 99	M	Yr 11/12	Joe Coles	C 1:16.66
Freestyle 99	F	Yr 11/12	Hayley Matheson	B 1:24.31
Freestyle 198	F	Yr 11/12	Kate Thompson	B 3:04.11
Backstroke 66	F	Yr 11/12	Taya Bartram	C 1:01.00
Breaststroke 66	F	Yr 11/12	Ella Sheahan	B 1:03.48
Individual Medley 132	F	Yr 11/12	Kate Thompson	B 2:14.14
Freestyle Relay 198	F	Yr 11/12	Kate Thompson Ella Sheahan Hayley Matheson Libby Thompson	B 1:38.06
Medley Relay 198	F	Yr 5-8	Libby Thompson Dakota Connolly Hayley Yasa Tessa Sheahan	B 2:06.01
Medley Relay 198	F	Yr 9-12	Hayley Matheson Kate Thompson Ella Sheahan Demi Matheson	B 1:49.94



Keely Kate Demi Matilda Shana Paige Jessie



Leeah Crawford



Sienna Demi Isabelle



Prep

Cooper Allan & Henry Pardella



Year 3

Isabella Pollington & Tory Pollington



Teacher Support

Mrs Kath Brennan



Year 5



Year 6

Harry Humphreys

Logan Pollington



Year 11



Year 10

Marley Hetherington

Heath Senior



Year 6

Kelly Hogan & Jenna Hogan

2022 STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM



School Captains

Ella Sheahan & Joe Coles

SRC President

Kate Thompson



Broadway House Captains

Hayley Matheson & Hunter Connolly

Calder House Captains

Taya Bartram & Xavier McKersie



Music Captains

Paige Arnel, Matilda Bish & Isabelle Mulquiny

THUMP BOXING

FREE



GREAT FOR FITNESS

Sundays

10am - 11am

In the Sports Complex

15 years and over

Bring a water bottle and a towel

ALL WELCOME

2022

School Term Dates

Term 1

(Staff) 28th Jan - 8th April

Term 2

(Students) 31st Jan - 8th April

Term 3

26th April - 24th June

Term 4

11th July - 16th September

3rd October - 20th December

Amelia Ison (2021 Dux of Wycheproof P-12 College) spoke to Year 9-12 students on Thursday 8th February on her tips for the completion of a successful VCE. Amelia was one of three Year 12 students at Wycheproof P-12 College last year and displayed determination, excellent organisational skills and resilience over the past two years to complete her studies. Amelia is about to commence a Criminology/Law degree (5 years) at Deakin University in Burwood. Amelia stressed the importance of selecting VCE subjects that you enjoy, not necessarily those where the study score may increase, do homework in your spares and as soon as you get it and to complete all the tasks that a teacher asks you to do. She recommended students to do a VET subject as you will receive a qualification as well as it contributing to your study score. Maths was not her favourite subject but she persevered and completed extra work to ensure a very satisfactory result at the end of the year. She highlighted useful resources such as ATAR notes, Studyclix, a VCE Discussion group on fb and accessing teachers for assistance if needed. In relation to exams she completed around 10 practice exams per Unit 3& 4 subject, and advised students to correct them themselves using answer guides before giving to the teacher and to look at Study Designs as this is where exam questions are generated from not a textbook. Amelia advised students to be well prepared to ensure good results. Over the last two years, Amelia worked in the kitchen at the Royal Mail Hotel and played netball which she said gave her a break from thinking about all the school work that she had to do. All the best Amelia!

NOTICES HOME

Prep - Yr 12

Re: Student Details Check

From: Admin - Due ASAP

Prep - Yr 12

Re: Student Consent Form

From: Admin - Due ASAP

Yr 3 - Yr 12

Re: Instrumental Music Program 2021

From: Jan Elder - Due 01/02/2021

Yr 7 & Yr 10

Re: Secondary School Vaccination Program

From: Admin - Due ASAP

Yr 7/8 Science

Re: Local Excursion Permission

From: Ms McKersie

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR!



Pictured above: 2022 School Captains; Ella Sheahan and Joe Coles with 2021 Wycheproof P-12 College Dux - Amelia Ison (centre).

YR 7/8 HOME ECONOMICS

~ Cornflake Cookies ~



Jessie Fawcett

Tessa Sheahan



Adele McNaughton

Kiarah Browne



Max Fawcett

Mark Austin

ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the school's Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's Privacy Policy, found on our website; www.wychep12.vic.edu.au

New Bell Times in 2022

8:50am - MORNING FORM ASSEMBLY

9:10am - Period 1

10:00 am - Period 2

10:50am - RECESS - 11:10am

11:10am - Period 3

12:00pm - Period 4

12:50pm - LUNCH - 1:25pm

1:30pm - Period 5

2:20pm - Period 6

3:10pm - HOME



HEALTHY LUNCHBOX WEEK

6TH - 12TH FEBRUARY 2022



Eating healthy foods helps us go about our day with more ease and energy.

Whether you're back at kinder, school or work it's important we fuel our minds and bodies with a range of nutritious and delicious foods.

Here are some top tips for creating a fuelling lunchbox:

Choose a variety of foods from the 5 food groups - Grains, Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy, Meat & Legumes.

Include a bottle of water - freeze it the night before for a cool refreshing drink!

Avoid food packed with ingredients like salt, sugar and fat, as they harm our health.

Prepare what you can the night before so you can grab and go in the morning rush.



Do you need some recipe inspiration? Check out these websites!

[Healthy Lunchbox Week](#)

[Cook Well Eat Well](#)

[Healthy Eating Advisory Service](#)

Healthy Lunchbox Week is an initiative of Nutrition Australia that aims to inspire families to create healthy and enjoyable lunchboxes. Source: <https://www.healthylunchboxweek.org.au/>

No. 1, 2022



FOOD ALLERGY SYMPTOMS

- RASH
- SWELLING OR ITCHING
- NAUSEA
- VOMITING
- DIARRHEA
- BREATHING PROBLEMS
- WHEEZING



Just a reminder that we have a number of students in our school who have allergic reactions to foods (mostly nuts, fish and eggs). We do not ban nuts (according to our policy) but we do ask students to be aware of triggers for allergic reactions in other children and how to respond to an anaphylaxis reaction. It is also important that students do not share food.



2022 Lions Youth of the Year
7pm
Thursday, 24th February
Lions Club Rooms
ALL WELCOME



Numeracy VCAL



VCAL students cooked beautifully coloured playdough for Ms Coatsworth's class in week one.

PICTURED
Left: Hunter Connolly

Above: Louisa Coles & Talia Hobson



**THE RURAL
YOUTH
NETWORK**

Proudly supported by



Invitation to a special Rural Youth Network event:

Connecting young rural and regional Victorians
& building rural communities

Who: All young rural people over 16 who would like to build great networks and learn about opportunities, supports, resources and activities both online and in person.

All older rural people who want to support young people and help them build networks and their rural communities.

What: A **FREE FUN NIGHT** with BBQ, barefoot bowls, live entertainment by local talent Elias Lanyon. Find out how to join the Rural Youth Network and support its development.

(All activities, food and soft drink are free. Drinks at bar prices)

Where: Charlton Bowling Club, Gordon Park, Charlton

Time: 5 - 8pm, Friday 11th February

RSVP: 9th February. Register at <https://bit.ly/RYN-Charton>

For more information contact Finn Poxon on 0488110199 or email info@youthrivevic.org.au

Covid safe guidelines will be observed, and guests are required to be double vaccinated



Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2022

Welcome to new students, new teachers and tutors and everyone returning.

While we had hoped to start the new year without needing to worry about COVID the Omicron variant put paid to those hopes. So the start of the year has meant that we are all super aware of COVIDSafe measures which is quite a list and means **wearing a mask inside** a building or bus, ensuring **windows** or doors are open so that air **circulates, washing hands** or using sanitiser, **cough** and sneeze etiquette, staying home if unwell and doing a **Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)**.

All students have received an allocation of RATs for this first 4 weeks of term 1. It is important that the instruction sheet inside the box is followed step by step to ensure an accurate reading. If parents or students are unsure or need help please contact me or call in to the school nurse office.

Positive RATs must be reported to the school and the coronavirus hotline phone 1800 675 398.

Of course vaccination is vitally important and congratulations to students and parents on the uptake of the vaccination rollout for school age children and teenagers. Advice in from the Department today (8/2/22), is that third dose vaccinations are now approved for 16 and 17-year-olds who had their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine three or more months ago. Contact Wycheproof Medical Centre to book your vaccination. If you are still hesitating about getting a COVID vaccine please see your doctor or trusted health professional who will be able to explain the benefits and the science behind the vaccine and the safety of the vaccine.

Mental Health Practitioner

We met Chantel White in Term 4 last year, and extend a warm welcome back for 2022. Chantel is available to provide individual counselling for students on referral. If teachers are worried about a student or issue that students have raised then Chantel can provide advice. Students who would like to see Chantel should talk to their year level coordinator, school nurse, Ms McKersie or Mrs Ison. Parent consent may be

headspace Swan Hill visit

Celeste Costa from *headspace*, Swan Hill, will be visiting in Term 1. At this visit Celeste will provide information on mental health and support to class groups. At these visits student can also book in for a one-on-one counselling session, see Jacinta or any member of the school Wellbeing Team if you need help with a referral. For online referrals, please see www.headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/swan-hill/. For more information call into the Health Hub or phone *headspace* Swan Hill on (03) 4010 7100.

Give nits the flick!

Even though we are socially distanced we all still need to be vigilant and regularly check children's hair for nits and headlice. This week's nit check for Term 1 gave us a score of 98% nit free. To keep nits at bay for your child, comb conditioner through their hair with a fine-tooth comb weekly and if you find live lice or nits then do a treatment with an approved product available at pharmacies according to directions. Please inform the school. Along with the over-the-counter nit treatments, daily combing through conditioner will go a long way to managing and eradicating the nits.

Health support plans

All student who have a diagnosis of a health condition are required to have a health support plan which outlines how we can minimise the risk of the illness flaring. Health support plans were sent out last week and parents/ carers are asked to please read them, sign and return the document to the school office as soon as possible. A reminder too, that up-to-date care plans signed by your doctor are also required to be on file at the school.

Support services & helplines

- ✓ Parentline 132289
- ✓ *headspace* call back 1800 650 890
- ✓ e*headspace* www.headspace.org.au
- ✓ Autism Connect helpline 1300 308 699 or webchat www.amaze.org.au
- ✓ Kids Helpline 1800 551 800

Mick Pope joined the Bureau in 1997. He spoke to us about how to become a meteorologist. After going to university, you get into the BOM and you get paid for a ten-month training course at Bureau of Meteorology training Centre in Broadmeadows (Graduate Diploma).

I loved listening to Janet Shelley, who has worked at the Bureau of Meteorology for 11 years. She spoke to us about her adventures to Antarctica, Willis Island and the middle of outback Western Australia. She has done a lot of travelling with BOM which is something I would love to do.

I really enjoyed talking to Rebecca Lush, a Curator at Pathology Learning Centre, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Museum. She showed us preserved human kidneys, the human brain, lungs and livers.

I got to speak to Astrophysics Professor Orsola and Astronomer students Claudia and Andrew from Macquarie University in Sydney. I was amazed by learning about the types of telescopes that the university has and the type of photographs the students can take.



National Youth Science Forum

What I really liked about NYSF by Lilly Pritchard

I really enjoyed having the opportunity to unmute and ask Professor Peter Doherty a question in relation to immunology, it felt unreal talking to a Nobel Prize winner.

I really enjoyed the science at home experiments, like extracting DNA from kiwi fruit. I loved hearing from Melbourne University as it gave me an insight for what University course I'm after, which is Bachelor of Biomedicine majoring in Pharmaceutical Science.

I loved the session: the science of solving a crime scene. We went through case studies of 'trying to catch the suspect'.

I really enjoyed listening to Meteorologist Mick Pope who works at the Bureau of Meteorology.



Star

WEEK

2

Students

Harlan Bartlett
Yr 5/6

Ebony Barker
Yr 2/3/4

Ashton Wright
Prep / Yr 1



DEMONS CANTEEN COMMITTEE (aka Wycheaproof Narraport Football Ladies Committee) AGM:

4pm, Sunday, 20th February at Terminus Hotel. All positions open, new volunteers strongly encouraged.

Please contact Mel Waters for more information - 0488 937 742

Wycheaproof P-12 College

2021

Year 12

R Bedggood

Dux Award

Amelia Ison

Wycheaproof P-12 College

2021

Year 12

Endeavour Award

Jack Arnel



youThrive
VICTORIA

North
Central
LEEN



Would you like to meet new people

and learn how to build your networks

and access a whole lot of opportunities?

FREE EVENT!!

11th February

FREE EVENT!!

5.00 – 8.00pm

Reconnect, connect, and have a ripper evening of barefoot lawn bowls and BBQ while listening to musician Elias Lanyon.



Register your interest now
<https://bit.ly/RYN-Chariton>

Due to delayed release of results for Year 12 students last year we were unable to announce our Year 12 award recipients at Presentation Day. Congratulations to Amelia, Jack and all students completing Unit 3-4 subjects last year with Wycheaproof P-12 College receiving an excellent median study score of 33.

Wycheaproof P-12 College ~ "Be Your Best"