Canberra Leadership Trip

On the 29th and 30th of May Galen’s four Senior School leaders India Dalzotto, Jack Larkin, Emma Gamble and Joshua Bevacqua were personally invited by Cathy McGowan, the federal member for Indi, to visit Parliament House. Our leaders had the opportunity to become familiar with the routines of parliament along with understanding and appreciating what being a good leader entails. Cathy explained to our school leaders that the students had a very similar role to her and that leadership and representing the people you are leading is very important.

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Canberra Leadership Trip

The students were invited by Cathy to the special dining room for lunch where she introduced the students to many other members of parliament as well as the opportunity to speak to the students about the pros and cons about being leaders.

We attended Question Time and Cathy delivered an interesting question about the funding of the North East rail services. After question time Cathy invited us all back to her office where she explained a lot of the reasons and procedures that occurred during this session.

Galen Catholic College certainly appreciated the kind offer and opportunity that Cathy gave to our young leaders to come and visit her in Canberra. This will undoubtedly leave a huge impression for our students as they embark on their their aspirations of being leaders in the future.

The accompanying staff of Lauren Sykes and Francesca Ridoli had a very rewarding experience in Canberra and we were certainly impressed by the warmness and friendship that Cathy offered the students. It was truly a most memorable occasion.

These were the comments from our students that were fortunate to visit Cathy McGowan:

The trip that my fellow captains and I recently went on was an experience that we won’t soon forget. From the trip to parliament, talking to Cathy McGowan about our concerns for the Indi area and what we as leaders are doing in our own school to improve the life of both students and staff alike, to our sit in on one of the daily question times that occur in parliament. Ending the trip with a visit to the war memorial where we paid our respects to the fallen soldiers of Australia through the last post. Overall the trip was more than worthwhile and I am grateful to the teachers that made this possible and especially to Cathy McGowan who continues to offer this experience to the leaders of Galen.

Joshua Bevacqua

On Monday the 29th of May Jack, Emma, Josh and I travelled to Canberra along with Mr Laurie Burt, Miss Lauren Sykes and Francy Ridoli to meet with Cathy McGowan, our local MP, at Parliament House. I personally found it to be an eye opening experience, as I have never been very interested in politics. However upon meeting Cathy her passion for our local area was immediately apparent. It was truly inspiring to see someone working so hard to improve our area and who is unwilling to give up easily. The experience has definitely made me think more actively about the Australian political system.

India Dal Zotto

Prior to question time, Cathy explained to us that it works a bit like a football game. This analogy was really helpful while I was observing question time as it allowed me to understand what was going on. Before I went to parliament, I had only seen snippets of question time on the news and had viewed the politicians as immature as they yelled at each other. After viewing the entirety of question time, I now understand how it works and why the politicians act the way they do. In our case, the Liberal party was trying to convince the Labor party that their policies and propositions were going to benefit Australia. I can also now see how Independent politicians are very influential when votes are made in parliament as they are able to vote for what their own electorate wants, or for what is most beneficial for their electorate – they do not have to vote with a particular party.

Emma Gamble

As soon as we arrived, Cathy took us on a quick tour of the roof of parliament house where she showed us a beautiful view. After a quick photo with Cathy we were back inside the restaurant of Parliament House and enjoyed a three course buffet style meal whilst having a chat with Cathy about the parliament and issues surrounding the north-east rail line education and recreation in the local area.

Jack Larkin

The students would like to take this opportunity to thank the Leadership at Galen and Cathy and her team for the amazing opportunity that was provided to us.
Congratulations to Meg Allan (Year 9) who has been selected as one of 30 students across Victoria, into The University of Melbourne's Girl Power in STEM Program.

Meg was very excited to receive confirmation that she had been accepted into the program. She will attend a three-day camp at University of Melbourne, and stay in the residences there. Next year Meg will be given the opportunity to do her work experience at the university and in her final VCE years will be mentored by university students. Meg believes that this is a great opportunity, and will support her in achieving her ambition to study science, in particular physiology.

Meg follows in the footsteps of Imogen Quilty (Year 10), who was selected last year. Imogen has been a great support to Meg in sharing her own experiences and providing some wise words of advice before her telephone interview with the University of Melbourne Selection Panel.

“The three day camp in Melbourne where you stay on campus at Ormond College was seriously amazing. Also don't worry about making friends, everyone is in the same boat as you so they're ready to make friends. The camp is intense but very interesting. They get you to work in groups and you get to do all types of challenges. They also have social events, such as a trivia night and a panel talk.”

This year Imogen has set up her work experience placement with the University of Melbourne Faculty of Science, working with Researchers focused on geology, weather and climate. She will start her placement in two weeks time and is excited to return for a more in depth experience.

We can consider these two young ladies to be extremely lucky, but there is no luck involved. They both strive to do their best and make the most of opportunities presented to them. They are great representatives of the Galen Community.
On Wednesday the 17th of June, 50 Galen Students and 6 Galen Staff went on the Italian Opera trip. We left school during lunch and took the long drive to Melbourne. On the way down the bus was full of conversation and excitement. Once we arrived in Melbourne, we walked around in groups and found something to eat, before getting changed into our clothes for the opera. As it was getting dark we all met up at the Melbourne State Theatre and had some group photos done. Everyone was very well dressed and we looked great as a group.

Once we got our tickets, we walked down into the theatre, filled with anticipation. The lights went dark and the opera began. The singing filled the room and while many of us had some trouble understanding what was being said, the amazing effect was not lost. Luckily, the lyrics to the singing were being shown above the stage in English, to help us understand what was taking place. The first opera was ‘Cavalleria Rusticana’, in which there was a murder on Easter Sunday in a small Italian town. The story was full of betrayal, plot twists, and love. At the conclusion of the first opera we had an interval before the second opera began. This one, titled ‘Pagliacci’, was about a sad clown, performing in the same town as where the first opera took place. The singing never lost its appeal throughout the whole night, and the twists and turns of the stories that took place made the opera all the more brilliant.

At the conclusion of the opera, we had a group photo with everyone. A journalist from Il Globo, the Italian newspaper in Australia was there for the show and took photos and interviewed students and teachers. After that, we all got back on the bus, and took a quick stop in Lygon Street for a delicious dessert and a drink. At about midnight we left Melbourne, exhausted after a long but exciting night. The students agreed that the opera was a wonderful experience, and that many of them would attend next year.

Written by Nathan Chadban
Year 9

The end of week 9 is a busy time for year 9’s as this week the ‘change over’ happens for the Discovery and mainstream students. Monday June 19 all students start Semester 2. It is important students make a great start to the semester before the holidays in 2 week’s time.

Year 10

What a busy time for year 10’s. Week 9 is the exam week and great preparation for those considering VCE in 2018. Week 10 is the start of semester 2 for year 10’s and they too need to make sure they make a great start to the semester before their week of work experience. A reminder to year 10’s there are opportunities in semester 2 for students who would like to do more days of work experience. This is particularly important for students who are thinking of doing VCAL in 2018. It is beneficial if VCAL students have a work placement organized before the start of 2018. Hence the importance for parents and students to attend the information night in term 3 on July 26 to further explain how to prepare in 2018.

Dates to Remember in June

- 12 Queens Birthday – Student Free Day
- 13-15 Year 10 Exams
- 16 Report Writing Day – Student Free Day
- 16 End of Semester 1 – Start new electives
- 19 Discovery classes change over
- 19 Start of Semester 2
- 26-30 Year 10 Work Experience
- 27 Staff PD – Student Free Day
- 30 Last day – Finish 2:30pm

Community Engagement at Galen with Dr George Otero

Unearthing the capacity within school communities to build every child’s achievement, wellbeing, life chances and spirit of service

On Tuesday 6th June a group of invited Galen staff, parents and community members gathered for a shared lunch and conversation with Dr George Otero, Founder of The Center for Relational Learning. George recently led the Sandhurst Parent Leadership and Family Engagement Strategy Study Tour to Santa Fe. Galen Deputy Principals Marie Salinger and Pat Arcuri participated in this study tour and shared their learnings with invited guests.

Following a delicious lunch provided by Hospitality students in the Soul Food Café, attendees had the opportunity to examine how Galen can improve understanding and connectedness for our school community, and to improve learning outcomes for our students. Conversations during the session focused on the importance of engaging families in learning, building social capital, and strengthening relationships between all members of the school community.
Hospitality News

The Soul Food Café has been open for lunch twice in term 2. The lunches are directly linked to the Hospitality course requirements; this term the focus was appetisers and salads. Students planned, prepared and served a buffet and Tapas lunch. Take away items were also available to staff and students.

Menu items included fresh pasta Canelloni, Arancini, stuffed mushrooms, Salad Niscoise, Lamb koftas and crème brulee.

The opportunity for students to serve customers under a time line is a valuable and rewarding hospitality experience. Lunches at The Soul Food Café will continue to open its doors twice a term.
This year’s Albury Scots Equestrian Interschool’s was held on the 20th of May at the Albury Wodonga Equestrian Centre. The competition contained Dressage, Showjumping, Mount and Rider, Games and Handy mount. With over 100 competitors attending this year’s event with some very tough competition and Galen entering one of their largest teams, including Annie Creed, Lucy O’Connor, Isla Evans, Amie Hourigan, Sarah and Hayley Berry, Tullia Hutchinson-Sharp, Hailey Silva, Rebecca and Jessica Jordan. It was a long day but all worth it in the end with Isla Evans coming home with Champion Intermediate Rider out of a class of 46 and Annie Creed came home 3rd in the Senior Division on a count back out of 40, everyone performed well with some individual wins throughout the day and some PB’s made. To top off the day Galen came home with a whole school Reserve Champion placing just trailing the Scots school but holding off Trinity College Albury.

Testing times for Year 11 students...

Year 11s put Senior building 1 to the test this week as the first cohort of students to use the space for their Unit 1 exams.
Upcoming Info Nights

Senior School (2018) Information Night (VCE/VCAL/VET) for current Year 10 students

Date: Wednesday 26th July
Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm
Venue: Stadium

Showcasing VCE/VCAL & VET at Galen. External Providers will be in attendance including ATEL, GOTafe, CSU, La Trobe plus more.

Year 10 (2018) Information Night for current Year 9 students

Date: Wednesday 9th August
Time: 6.30pm-8.30pm
Venue: Stadium

Showcasing VCE/VCAL & VET at Galen. External Providers will be in attendance including ATEL, GOTafe, CSU, La Trobe plus more.
Free meningococcal ACWY vaccine for Years 10, 11 and 12

In 2017 the Victorian Secondary School Vaccine Program will offer free meningococcal ACWY vaccine to students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The vaccine provides protection against four strains of meningococcal disease (ACWY) and is administered as a single dose. Parents/guardians of Year 10, 11 and 12 students should look out for the Meningococcal ACWY Secondary School Vaccine Program consent card coming home from school with your child. You need to read the information, complete and return the card regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

Adolescents are at increased risk of meningococcal disease. Although uncommon, it can become life-threatening, very quickly. There are different strains of meningococcal bacteria known by letters of the alphabet, including meningococcal A, B, C, W and Y. In recent years, the meningococcal W strain has increased across Australia, with Victoria experiencing 11 cases to date in 2017 and 48 cases in 2016, compared to 17 cases in 2015, four in 2014 and one in 2013. It is now the predominant strain in Victoria.

The Rural City of Wangaratta immunisation service may contact you about the meningococcal ACWY vaccine program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school by 7 June 2017 if you do not want your contact details given to the Rural City of Wangaratta immunisation service. To learn more about meningococcal disease, the meningococcal ACWY vaccine and how you can prepare your child for vaccination, visit: betterhealth.vic.gov.au or immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

The dates organised for meningococcal ACWY vaccines at Galen Catholic College will be:

- Year 11/12 students - Thursday 31st August 2017
- Year 10 students Thursday 16th November 2017

Every Day Counts: School Attendance

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 can affect their educational outcomes.

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 classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible. From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean 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.

Patrick Arcuri
Deputy Principal – Pastoral Care & Wellbeing

Parents’ Association Meeting

Next Parents Association meeting is Tuesday 20th June 6.30 in the Galen Staff room. Marie Salinger and Geneveive O’Reilly will be attending to explain the Curriculum Review Team’s finalised recommendations of the 10-12 curriculum. All welcome.

Learning Support Centre

Extra Support for Homework

We will be providing extra supervised homework times this term, for all students.

When: Every second Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. These are Days 2, 4, 6, 7 and 9 of the student timetable.
Time: 3:30 – 4:30
Where: IT 1 (Room 10.1) and the Learning Support Centre.
What: There will be no teachers available at this time but the staff from our centre will provide the same support as they do when working in the classroom.

The Homework Club on a Wednesday will continue as usual.

Office Reminders

A Reminder to Parents: Drop Off/Pick Up Student Areas

Please use Entry 2 – Phillipson St OR Entry 3 – Park Lane Crescent – to drop off/pick up students. College Street Main Entrance is not a drop off/pick up area.

Please take note the Phillipson St Car Park is restricted access only for the Building Workers – no parking is allowed in this area during the construction of the Master Stage 1C Building Works. Thank you for your co-operation.
Congratulations to past Galen 2010 graduate Scott Walsh who recently received a Pro Vice-Chancellor Engineering Prize from RMIT University on the 16th May.

The Pro Vice-Chancellor Engineering Prize is awarded to the best student in their final year of an engineering program, selected on academic achievement and contributions to School and University activities.

As a University student, Scott did two exchanges, one to the University of Maryland for 6 months in his 3rd year (2014) and the second he was awarded the Colombo scholarship from the Federal Government to study for 6 months in Vietnam. Last year Scott won the best Civil engineering student in his penultimate year (4th year).

His advice to any students would be to get to know their lecturers, make the most of opportunities on offer at University and go on exchange to gain a global perspective.

Scott’s degree is a Bachelor of Civil and Infrastructure Engineering with first class honours and Business Management (with distinction).

He currently works for Fulton Hogan as a Graduate Engineer and at present is working on the Monash Freeway upgrade.

Above: Scott pictured with Peter Coloe Pro-Vice Chancellor RMIT University.
Meet Zack.

Zack is studying science and maths at uni. He also volunteers his time to mentor students just like you.

Want to ask him a question?

You can with the In2science eMentoring program.

We connect you online with a Uni student studying your kind of science – biology, engineering, robotics, even simple maths. Ask them about classwork, science breakthroughs, careers, or just what university is really like.

Want to know more? Speak to your science/math teacher and register your interest today.
Meet Rach.

Rach is studying science and maths at uni. She also volunteers her time to mentor students just like you.

Want to ask her a question?

You can with the In2science eMentoring program.

We connect you online with a Uni student studying your kind of science – biology, engineering, robotics, even simple maths. Ask them about classwork, science breakthroughs, careers, or just what university is really like.

Want to know more? Speak to your science/maths teacher and register your interest today.
Join us as a trial member for 2 weeks between 5 June and 14 June for only $20. During this time you can visit the centre as many times as you like.

Don’t hibernate during the colder winter months. Set yourself up for success and make your health and fitness a priority.

Find out more: www.wangaratta.ymca.org.au
In Years 7-10, students miss on average almost a week every term - that's four weeks of school per year.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

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.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

It’s never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

**“Day off”** – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – When students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.
- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/beha](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx)