

# Centre of Excellence News

TERM ONE 2007

MARCH 2007

OUR Webpage [www.wbllcoll.vic.edu.au/coe](http://www.wbllcoll.vic.edu.au/coe)

## Staffing Up date . . .

*“There is so much going with LOTE at our schools it’s hard for me to keep up. So if you are doing some exciting / innovative work with your students please let me know so that we can include an article in next terms newsletter. If you would like assistance to run a special program, contact Michelle Ladhams on 55644480 or [ladhams.michelle.m@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:ladhams.michelle.m@edumail.vic.gov.au)*

The Centre has undergone some staffing changes this year. Lesley Crowe-Delaney is no longer working at the centre in 2007. I would like to thank her for the contributions she made to the Centre in terms three and four 2006.

This year we have been able to offer some existing staff members some time release to work in the Centre and thus far I have been very impressed with their efforts. Josie Mc Inerney works in the centre on Thursdays, she has spent term one assisting with the Indonesian sister school program (refer article on page 2 for more details) and organized in two one day events for year seven and eight LOTE students at

Warrnambool College as part of our Education weeks celebrations.

**Linda Clark** now has a one day a week time allotment to devote to developing Japanese programs for both Warrnambool and Brauer College. I have included a copy of the Japanese newsletter that Linda has created as part of this role to increase the profile of LOTE at Brauer. We would also like to wish Linda well for her wedding this Friday.

**Mary Keneally** and **Jenny Emmanuelle** have also got some time release (one day a week between them) and they have spent this time documenting their year 7 and 8 LOTE programs and plan-

ning how ICT can be incorporated into them.

The Centre also welcomes **Mary Pendergast** back to Warrnambool College in her new role as principal. As part of this role Mary is a member of the Centre of Excellence Management Team. We also welcome the return of **Amanda McCarten** to the Brauer Japanese staff and we look forward to working with her in the in 2007 and beyond.

The Barwon South West Region also has a new regional Project Officer in **Kim Van den Berghe**, we look forward to working with Kim in making LOTE in our region stronger than ever.

### Inside this issue:

Ipods in LOTE	2
Sister school Visit	2
LOTE Busters	3
Education Week	3
Research	4
Our web page	4
Up coming events	4

## Darwin and Japan

During the January school holidays Josie Mc Inerney and Robert Dart furthered their knowledge in their LOTE by accepting an Endeavour Scholarship to participate in a three week course in their LOTE.

Josie went with 19 teachers and 15 trainee teachers to Darwin to participate in a 13 week intensive language course. *“Participating in*

*the course was a great experience, which confirmed for me the importance of intercultural language learning, i.e. that a language is never able to be learnt in isolation but involves learning about and understanding a people”*

Robert went to Japan with 49 other teachers and trainee teachers. During his trip he got to visit various tourist

attractions in Japan as well as participate in a one week language school.

Both Josie and Robert were very pleased with their trips and would recommend them to others.

Application forms for the scholarships are available in term three, please see Michelle, Josie or Robert for more details.

## Ipods and MP3 players .... In LOTE?

Last week I got sick of looking at students with ipods in their ears!! So I thought I would have a go at turning these devices into a learning tool, and the results have been genuinely surprising. I approached my year 12 class about using some of their ipod space to download some listening tracks. I always give my students hours worth of listening practice as this is most commonly their weakest skill in LOTE. So with the assistance of two of my year 12 students (**Jess Gleeson and Emily Ezzy**) I download itunes, copied the listening tracks to my "*itunes library*" then got all the students ipods and copied them on. Previously I would have spent hours copying CDs for each

student, but this process literally took a few minutes per ipod! But what is really surprising the students have already started listening to the tracks, and not just waiting for the holidays to listen to the CD in one sitting. Because they are often listening to their ipods it was easy for them to start!!! However, not all student have ipods so if you are going to try something like this yourself, do have some of the tracks on CD for those student students who don't have access to an ipod.

I have now moved into another new and exciting realm of ICT and LOTE ... podcasting!! Which is basically creating audio tracks that can be

downloaded to students mp3 players or ipods. I have started recording my year 12 students and then putting these recordings onto their ipods so that they can complete some self reflections on their progress and identify areas they need to work on.

**I am going to run an after school workshop on how to use ipods and create pod casts early term 2... so stay tuned.**

If you would like a head start download itunes, its free! Starting playing (and become familiar) with how this software organizes your music and sound



## Indonesian visit

**KOTA  
WARRNAMBOOL  
SEPI,  
SEANANG,  
CANTIK,  
(THE CITY OF  
WARRNAMBOOL,  
QUIET, HAPPY  
AND PRETTY)**

Maybe you read the Warrnambool Standard on Saturday the 17th of March or just noticed a few more Indonesians in our city. Thanks to the hard work of

**Vince Gleeson** and **Josie McInerney** Warrnambool College hosted a visit from ten students, an English teacher and the principal from our Indonesian sister school, SMA N 3 Yogyakarta, Java, Indonesia.

The group stayed in Warrnambool for two weeks and then concluded their trip with four days in Melbourne. During their stay the stu-

dents experienced school life at Warrnambool College, visited two primary schools (Allansford and Woolsthorpe), where they did a performance and conducted workshops, visited local attractions and universities.

According to Mr. **Kusworo**, English Teacher, a highlight of the trip was taking the students to the Port Fairy Folk festival where two of the students performed. One student, Nigar, earned over \$50 with her Balinese dancing.

Some of the students expressed other highlights including going horse riding on the weekend with their host families. Mr. **Bambang** SMA N 3 principal was very impressed with the City of Warrnambool, how clean it is and especially how friendly the people of Warrnambool are.

For some of the Warrnambool Col-

lege students who hosted students a highlight was actually speaking Indonesian to Indonesians and making new friends. It didn't take long for the students to realize that teenagers, regardless of their origins, share many common interests and hobbies.

It was fantastic to see my students speaking Indonesian in their own time by choice (without my prompting); the students also gained a much greater understanding of everyday life in Indonesia. This was a fantastic opportunity particularly due to current travel bans by the Department mean we can longer take students to Indonesia to experience their LOTE first hand.

## LOTE Busters

As part of the Centre of Excellences project the three Centres are required to share their findings beyond their own network. Therefore, Berwick, Essendon—Keilor and the Warrnambool Network have combined to run a series of state wide conferences, one in every region. This series of conferences is called “LOTE Busters”. Each Centre has a different area to focus on :

- Berwick—ICT in LOTE
- Essendon—Keilor—Cross curricular activities with LOTE, and

- Warrnambool— Enhancing LOTE experiences.

Warrnambool are responsible for sharing their findings about what has worked for us during the last two and a half years, including:

- VCE Camp,
- Interactive whiteboards in LOTE,
- Enhancing Sister school Relationships,
- Rubrics in all year levels,
- Creating Trails,

Celebration Days,  
Running international tours ,

I am sure many more of the activities you are currently doing will fit into these categories.

I need your assistance to run these workshops across the state, so if you are interested in attending these conferences and even delivering a workshop please contact Michelle Ladhams (dates and regions are on page four). Your knowledge, skills and experiences is worth sharing state-wide.

## Education Week

This year education week falls from Sunday the 6th of May to Saturday the 13th of May. In 2006 we ran a series of activities to raise the profile of LOTE in our schools which were highly successful. Plans are now underway to run bigger and better activities in 2007.

At Warrnambool College there are two days planned. Monday the 7th a year 7 day and Wednesday the 9th year 8 day. During these days the students will experience readers theatre, watch performances, participate

in hands on workshops including martial arts, Japanese drumming, dance, cooking, creating the Eiffel tower, playing petanque and Kasti (Indonesian baseball).

If you have any suggestions for some activities you would like to run with the Centre’s support please let me know ASAP.

We are also gong to run a LOTE dinner for all LOTE teachers, their partners and principal class at Warrnambool and Brauer College. Does anyone have any suggestions

for a venue?? Please let me know or I will select one of my favorite venues.

At the moment we are looking at running the **dinner on Tuesday the 8th of May.**

**LET’S MAKE  
EDUCATION  
WEEK... LOTE  
WEEK IN OUR  
SCHOOLS**

## Research

As part of the Centre of Excellence project each centre is required to undertake some formal research. The Warrnambool Centre is looking at the impact of teaching LOTE in the Barwon South West Region and the issues that are faced by LOTE teachers in this region. All LOTE teachers in the Barwon South West Region will be emailed a survey, the more response I get the stronger the research therefore, **when you re-**

**ceive your LOTE survey PLEASE respond in the given time frame.** We are hoping that from this research we will be able to make strong recommendations to the Department about what is required in our region to make LOTE programs stronger.



## OUR Webpage

Centre of Excellence Berwick  
webpage:  
[http://  
www.bsclotecoe.vic.edu.au/](http://www.bsclotecoe.vic.edu.au/)

Centre of Excellence Essedon –  
Keilor webpage:  
<http://www.celote.vic.edu.au/>

WE'RE ON THE WEB:

WWW.WBLCOLL.VIC.  
EDU.AU/COE

The Centre webpage has now got a new address, format and content. At

**[www.wblcoll.vic.edu.au/coe](http://www.wblcoll.vic.edu.au/coe)**

This page includes updates of events, timetables and activities that have worked well. If you would like to share some of your ideas, work, activities with others please contact Michelle and she will organize to have them included in the webpage. I know you are all doing a fantastic job with your classes, so why not share your success with others.

### Laptop trolley update..

Purchasing two trolleys of 10 laptops (one per school) has proven to be a very difficult task. We have had some difficulty getting a trolley that will support the HP laptops—we hope to have some resolution to this issue by the end of term one, so that they will be in classes early term two. Thanks to Luke Boyce and Peter Honan for all their technical support.

***"The webpage is for us to share and celebrate our achievements with others in our network and the rest of the state."***

## Professional Development Opportunities

There are many opportunities this year to participate in Professional Development activities both locally and further a field. One of the Centre goals is to provide opportunities to participate in PD. Please let me know if you would like to participate in some further PD activities.

Here are some up coming PD events

### LOCAL:

- ipods in LOTE with Michelle Ladhams Thursday the 19th of April (The first Thursday back.
- Warrnambool LOTE teachers Network meeting Thursday 17th of May.

- Celebrating LOTE in Warrnambool Dinner Tuesday 8th May

### MELBOURNE:

MLTAV Conference Friday 27th April

### LOTE Buster, the combined Centres Conferences:

Lodden Mallee 22nd & 23rd May,  
Hume 7th & 8th of June

Southern Metropolitan Region  
Wednesday the 18th of July

Eastern Metropolitan Region Thursday the 19th of July

Western Metropolitan Region Tuesday the 2nd August

Northern Metropolitan Region  
Wednesday the 3rd August

Gippsland 8th & 9th November

Barwon South West and Grampians Region—13th and 14th of November

