It was very pleasing to see the strong turnout for parent / teacher interviews last week. Good communication between parents and teachers provides a solid foundation on which to build excellent support for student success. I would encourage any parents that were unable to make it to interviews, to phone the school to either arrange an interview by phone or face to face with teachers.

NAPLAN testing was completed this year with positive feedback from students indicating the school curriculum has prepared them well. Valley View Secondary School will also be involved in an "online' NAPLAN testing trial early in term three. The results of these tests will assist teachers to identify areas for intervention and specific skill development to ensure all students are well prepared for Senior School.

I would like to publicly thank the dedicated teachers at Valley View Secondary School that volunteered their time to run holiday study programs aimed at maximising student learning and achievement outcomes. While not all teachers identified a need to run holiday programs at the end of term one, those that did were generally pleased with student participation which included just a few students in some classes through to whole classes in other cases. Year 12 results are measured and moderated against students statewide and it is critical that every effort is made to achieve as highly as possible.

Our first venture into Pedal Prix will be 19th June at Victoria Park, however, for students and parents wanting to know more about the event you may visit http://www.pedalprix.com.au/2016/05/06/loxton-live-stream to watch the Loxton Pedal Prix from 9:30am this Sunday, 15th May. Businesses interested in sponsoring our team still have opportunity to have their name on our vehicle before our first race, 19th June 2016.

The Valley View Secondary School, 2015 Annual Report is available on the school web site and highlights quite extensive changes that took place in 2015. The focus is quite clearly on our core business of teaching and learning which resulted in a significant lift in student achievement.

Steve Marshall
SRC STAFF AWARDS

This year the SRC has unanimously agreed that it was time that Valley View staff were recognised by the students for their contribution to the school.

All staff at our school can be nominated and if you have a teacher or supporting staff person in mind it is important that you let your SRC rep know the name of that person.

Nominees should display the core values of the school of Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, and Support. But just as importantly, nominees should go above and beyond for our school community and their participation or support of student learning.

Our first award winner is a teacher that works extremely hard to research and explore every part of his course to give students the best opportunity for success. He creates flexibility within his subject to give students the chance to achieve at the highest level possible. His ongoing work with our Pre-service teachers also shows his dedication to the quality of schools in the future. Our nominated teacher is someone who participates with student sports at the highest level and his contribution to the successful running of Sports Day, SANTOS and weekly sporting events is to be commended.

The SRC gratefully acknowledge the contribution of Mr Claude Miller.

ROCK CLIMBING

On Tuesday 10th May, some of our year 8 students Tayah Sullivan, Holly Linke, Paige Fraser, Brad Sim and Aidan O’Brien went with Mr Scalzi to Holden Hill Vertical Reality Climbing Centre.

They learnt how to harness themselves and the basic steps of rock climbing. They competed against senior students from Banksia Park High School and Charles Campbell College. Paige Fraser came 4th and defeated one of the year 11’s.

All students had a great day and achieved great heights

Paige Fraser & Tayah Sullivan
Year 8 Students
I am a Sergeant in the Australian Army Cadets and the picture above (me in the red sash) shows me commanding a catafalque party on ANZAC day at Prospect RSL. Being in cadets has given me a strong connection with the military especially being involved in services such as ANZAC and Remembrance Day dawn services. I believe that all people should attend a dawn service because it is at that time that we remember those who both paid the ultimate sacrifice for our country and those who are still serving our country overseas. I believe that all kids at some point in their life should join an organisation like the Navy, Army or Air-force Cadets because it teaches them qualities like respect, discipline, self-control, confidence and mateship. Cadets has helped me to become the strong self-reliant person I am today and I will use those skills that I have learnt throughout my life.

Bryce Woithe
Year 12 Student

ANZAC day is commemorated 25th April every year since 1916. It’s a day to remember the soldiers who fell for our country in combat in all wars. I have been to a dawn service since I was 2 and have never missed a year since 2005. My Great Grandpa flew a spitfire in WWII so it means a lot to me to commemorate all the soldiers who fought. I honestly think all young children should think about going to a dawn service next year. Every dawn service is pretty much the same, they recite two hymns, “Eternal Father, strong to save” and “Lead, Kindly Light”. The Prayer of Remembrance is read and also Scriptures are read, wreaths are placed on the memorial, the Last Post is played and have one minute’s silence. The Ode of Remembrance and The Benediction are recited and the National Anthem of Australia and New Zealand are sung. Dawn Services don’t mean as much to children of this generation as I think they should but to me and my family they mean a lot. ANZAC Day is a very emotional time.

Cooper Davidson-Peacock
Year 8 Student

They shall grow not old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.
Students from years 11 and 12 had the opportunity to attend the Beacon High Impact Program held at Coca Cola. Students developed work readiness skills including workplace behaviour, navigating the workplace, employee interaction, recruitment processes and resume analysis. Students also had the chance to meet with working professionals from Coca Cola and ask them a series of work related questions. Students complete this program with a better understanding of workplaces and ways in which they should conduct themselves in interview processes. We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all students who attended and actively participated throughout the day.

Danielle Fattori & Anita Jackman