Congratulations to Yulia Cai (class of 2013) on being short listed for the 2014 Victorian International Student Leadership awards. During 2013 Yulia completed her VCE studying EAL, Mathematical Methods, Physics, Chinese, Visual Communication Design and Japanese. She was a member of the school’s Multicultural Reference Group and was also the inaugural International Student participant in the school’s public speaking competition of the Carson Trophy. Yulia also participated in the ELTHAM College Screen Base Camp (see article on page 5) and gained Certificate IV in Screen and Media.

This year Yulia will return to study Design Architecture for her tertiary degree at the University of Sydney.

**Congratulations Class of 2013**

In 2013 ELTHAM College had 23 international students complete their VCE studies. They were a very talented cohort with a range of academic interests and abilities. This has resulted in these students selecting a wide range of courses and universities for their tertiary studies. Whilst 41% of students have still chosen to attend the University of Melbourne, many other students have embarked on journeys to Sydney University, ANU (Canberra), Monash and RMIT amongst other institutions. We take this opportunity to wish them good luck for their future as they commence further studies.
A Welcome from Simon Le Plastrier, Principal

At ELTHAM we care about empowering our young men and women to live their passion and face the world. From Early Learning all the way through to Senior Years, schooling at ELTHAM College has always involved enjoyment, fun, encouragement and nurturing of the individual, while providing each student with a holistic and creative educational experience. Families of vision created ELTHAM College in 1973 and it opened in 1974 as a student focused, innovative, coeducational and inclusive school serving the community. Since then we have prospered and deservedly established a reputation as an outstanding leader in education. Our world requires citizens with global awareness, imbued with an ethical education, leadership training and an inquisitive nature, which enables them to explore perspectives and experiences of both their own and other cultures. At ELTHAM College we achieve these fundamental life skills in an ever evolving, exciting, challenging intellectual and cultural environment. At ELTHAM every student has a voice and their ideas are both heard and respected.

Education at ELTHAM is a journey of discovery and transformation. It’s about enhancing individual talents, unearthing passions and realising potential. It’s learning from everything life has to offer and having the disposition to thrive in an ever changing world. We see ourselves in the privileged position to work, learn and grow with truly amazing young people, each with so much to contribute. We are focussed on their needs, for now and in the future.

We acknowledge that students are entitled to individual understanding and recognition at all levels of success. An ELTHAM education is built on a strong academic foundation, has the option of vocational training in the Senior Years, champions lifelong learning skills, and ultimately helps our students graduate WORLD READY.

Simon Le Plastrier
Principal
Senshu Kitakami Secondary School

During November 2013 Senshu Kitakami school visited ELTHAM College. Six senior students accompanied by two of their teachers had fun participating with their buddies across a range of Middle Years activities. In groups the students managed to film and produce DVD’s which highlighted the fun they had while at school. Under the supervision of their teacher, Dave Jackson, the students gained valuable new multimedia skills. On the final day of the visit the students gave a presentation to their homestay families and buddies that highlighted Japanese national dance, singing, calligraphy and origami making. All those involved in this visit totally enjoyed the experience and a vast amount of goodwill was created from the stay.

USA Basketball Tour 2013

In December 2013, twelve students and three staff headed off to the United States of America to play basketball against some of the world's finest High Schools. The team came across some highly skilled and competitive schools and teams on tour. Over the 23 days ELTHAM College played 12 games of basketball, winning 8 and losing 4. The camaraderie and friendships made will last for years to come. The tour took us to San Francisco, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Hawaii. Our first basketball commitment was a three day tournament in Placerville north east of Sacramento, then games in Las Vegas, more fixtures in LA and finally two games in Hawaii. On top of our obvious Basketball commitment the group experienced a two night homestay/billet with families from the Ponderosa High School CA, they toured Alcatraz, rode pushbikes over the Golden Gate Bridge as well as walked the world’s Most Crooked Street (Lombard Street, San Francisco). An opportunity such as this tour provides many life changing moments.
Visit from former student Laurin Marconi

It is always wonderful to have visits from students who have previously studied at the College. Laurin Marconi completed a semester of study at ELTHAM College in 2010 and has since completed his senior years studies in Hamburg Germany. While in Melbourne on holiday Laurin stayed with one of our homestay families and visited his ELTHAM College friends for Australia Day. Laurin hopes to pursue a business/economic degree at university. He is interested in the programs being offered at the Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

Vox pop with Trish Douglas—Senior Years Mentor

What is your current title at ELTHAM College?
I think it is LifeWork Manager: VCE & VET Compliance but I’m usually called VCE Coordinator – a term everyone understands.

Why teaching? What first attracted you to education as a career?
I loved school. I was inspired by my own teachers and their passions for their subjects and felt I could help students get the most out of their educational experience.

What sustains your passion for Geography?
Geography is such a relevant subject in the real world. The interconnections between people and the environment affect everyone, everywhere from small scale issues such as the impact of holiday makers on our beaches, to the growth of megacities world-wide.

As President of Geography Teachers Association (GTAV) and Vice President of Australian Geography Teachers Association (AGTA), what advice do you give young teachers about teenagers? My most important advice is to work with young people, not lecture at them and help them discover the excitement of learning by passing on your passion for your subject.

How long did you take to write your latest contribution for your recently published text? The team of authors, of which I was part, initially started writing in early 2011. However, we had to change this considerably as the draft Australian Curriculum: Geography underwent a number of changes before being finalised in mid-2013. The text was published in October 2013.

Hobbies/Recreation activities outside of school? Trying to keep fit by going to the gym, gardening, reading, travel and watching my two sons in their sporting pursuits.
ELTHAM College - Screen Base Camp

“I completed Base Camp during the summer holidays. It was the first time I had ever made my own film. I had a lot of fun and made many new friends. I believe this type of experience is unforgettable. The skills that I have learned from Base Camp will be very useful in my daily life!” - Emma Zhang

“The Base Camp was an incredible experience and I will never forget it. During the camp, I made my first ever movie. Every time I watch it, it brings back memories of those 3 amazing weeks. At the camp, I shared a cabin and filmed with local students. They are all kind and helpful, and helped me so much in the writing, filming and editing processes. The teachers are very patient and professional. During the editing they really helped me a lot and made sure that everyone produced a fantastic film. I loved base camp so much!” - Lisa Liu

“One of my greatest experiences of studying at ELTHAM College was completing the Screen Extension course. Initially, my reason for attending this course is to gain extra bonus to my VCE ATAR score. However, with the patient help of Dave and experiencing group work with my talented classmates, I found that the learning process is much valuable than the bonus. I found that the local students were involved would speak up about confusions and express different opinions. I made friends with many of the local students and gained support from them along the way. I shot my major film with Alana at Montsalvat; I tried different roles in making a screen product with Claire, Patrick and Lucas. This experience has left me with wonderful memories that will last forever!” - Yulia Cai

Base Camp and Screen Extension are 2 ways that students, both local and international, can learn new skills, create a masterpiece and make new friends, all whilst receiving a block credit towards their ATAR, as well as a qualification. It is an amazing experience that is educational and thoroughly enjoyable all at the same time!” - India Weaver (Local Student)

In late 2014, ELTHAM College is offering Screen Base Camp, which involves students making their own movie and assisting others to make theirs. Screen Base Camp is outside the normal school curriculum and is a stand alone subject that provides a 10% Block Credit towards a student’s ATAR score. The course is designed for students interested in or wanting to try their hand at movie making.

The Screen Base Camp is a three-week intensive course that begins after the Year 11 exams. The course is practical in nature - there are no grades and no examination: rather, students will be assessed throughout the course on their film making skills and knowledge. The course includes small workshops with industry professionals who will conduct training in script writing and how to get the best out of a camera. After a week of training, students head to our film camp at Lorne. During this week, students will be part of a crew, either contributing to their set or others through their camera, lighting, sound, directing and/or acting skills. Once the camp is complete we return for a week of training and editing.

The Certificate IV in Screen and Media is a nationally recognized, competency based qualification. The Camp covers eight units from a total of thirteen required for the complete Certificate IV in Screen and Media qualification, the remaining five units will be offered in Terms 2 and 3 in 2014 for students interested in the Screen Extension Wednesday afternoon course. Students may enrol in the Base Camp only and receive a Statement of Attainment for the units completed and also a 10% block credit towards their ATAR score .

Judy Rothacker - Director of International Students E: jrothacker@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au
International Registrar E: internationalregistrar@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au
T: +61 3 9437 1421 W: www.international.elthamcollege.vic.edu.au CRICOS Provider No. 00138D
ELTHAM College Farewells Jan Warwick

At the end of Term One 2014 Jan Warwick will retire from her position as International Registrar. Jan has had a long career at ELTHAM, initially assisting with the Commercial Practice course and then progressing into the Enrolments office in 1987. Jan worked as the College Registrar from 1999 until 2008 when she began to specialise in International Education. Jan is retiring to spend more time with her grandchildren and travelling overseas with her husband. The College will officially celebrate Jan’s work and wish her all the best for her future at the end of this term.

Happy Chinese New Year

We wish you a prosperous and peaceful New Year.

Jan Warwick, retiring International Registrar

Judy Rothacker - Director of International Students E: jrothacker@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au
International Registrar E: internationalregistrar@elthamcollege.vic.edu.au
T: +61 3 9437 1421 W: www.international.elthamcollege.vic.edu.au CRICOS Provider No. 00138D