What exactly is a black hole?
It never ceases to amaze me how when small business or the individual loses money, it is labelled incompetent or even fraudulent and yet when huge corporations, the banks and the government lose money, it somehow seems to become the fault of this thing called a black hole. The beauty of black holes is that by definition they are holes without boundaries and therefore according to our limited brains anyway, cannot possibly exist.

For example it was revealed earlier this week that under the last Labour Government in Victoria, $28,000,000 disappeared into a black hole which was later revealed to be a ‘slush fund’ used by members of the education department for a raft of activities which had little or no relevance to the portfolio of education. More recently under the new Andrew’s government, the education department has just announced they have found an $853,000,000 ‘black hole’ in their budget!

So, let me get this straight...

The state government needs to conduct an investigation to see if it has lost $800,000,000 or not?
And the best part is this... If it’s gone, it’s not because of incompetence, or corruption, or just straight out political lies...

No. It was a black hole!

That’s right the government which handles our taxes and is about to administer 11 billion dollars in educational reform funding over the next five years, thinks it is okay to say, ‘it’s not our fault’. The money disappeared into the only place known to man that doesn’t actually exist! Seriously these clowns would rob a bank that wasn’t there!

Meanwhile back at JCS, a single mum came in last week with her son. The young man had been to 7 government schools in 6 years. He had been asked to leave them all. He clearly did not fit. He has been with us for two weeks now. He is doing well and loving school, but if the government get their way, he’ll be placed in a ‘special government school’ for a program which runs for 2 hours per week!

While we are determined to keep him with us, there is a huge part of me that hopes he will be forced to go to the 2 hour week school until the government realises he doesn’t fit there either and in desperation chuck him into their huge ‘black hole’ reserved for all things unmanageable...

And when he hits the bottom (if there is one) of that huge black hole, I hope the first thing he sees is the $800,000,000 the government can’t find. I hope he walks right up to it, picks it up (let’s hope it’s a cheque and not in bills), puts it in his pocket and walks right out of there. He’s a good kid and I honestly believe he would spend it more wisely on education than the last 3 governments have... Which would not be hard, because according to them, the money doesn’t even exist.
Welcome to term 2

Welcome back to all our students. Term 2 is already off to a very positive start. We appreciate the contribution all of our students have made to the community so far this year on camps, in the classroom and in personal development.

The focus for Term 2 is ‘family’. This topic encourages students to look at their place within their family. They will then look at the relationships they have within the family and what this means for them. Families offer a place to find support and love. Families can also be a source of conflict and difficulties. Especially as young people (and their parents) navigate their teenage years.

This term’s theme follows on from the Term 1 theme: self. Students are encouraged to broaden their understanding of themselves as they examine family connections and relationships.

DECV

DECV is now in week 11 for VCE students and module C week 1 for junior school students. So far students are making a consistent effort towards their studies. If you have any questions in regards to your child’s progress please contact the school.
Homework Sessions

This term we will be running afternoon homework sessions. These will run for students who wish to catch up on DECV work as well as students who wish to commence exam preparation. If you would like your child to attend please contact Kate.

- Monday: 3:30-6:00 pm
- Tuesday: 3:30-6:00 pm
- Wednesday: 3:30-6:00 pm
- Friday: 3:30-6:00 pm

QLD Camp

This term we will be running Queensland Camp at Surfer’s Paradise and South Stradbroke Island. This camp is our most exciting and adventurous camp. Parents should have information in regards to the camp and we will be sending out more information closer to the time.

Please contact the school if you have any follow up questions.
**Important Dates**

**Term 2**
- Sunday 10th May: Mother’s Day
- Wednesday 13th May: Gender Bender
- Tues 26th May – Fri 29th May: Queensland camp (TBC)
- Monday 8th June: Queen’s Birthday
- Sat 13th June – Mon 15th June: Lavers Hill catch up camp
- Mon 22nd June – Wed 24th June: Junior exams
- Friday 26th June: Term 2 concludes

**Activities**

This term’s excursion is Gender Bender. One of the aims of this exercise is to give students the opportunity to spend a day in someone else’s shoes. It is common for teenagers to lack appreciation for all that they have in life. By dressing up and disguising themselves, students gain direct insight into the experience of another.
"The purpose of life is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience."

- Eleanor Roosevelt