EXIT PROGRAM
BILLANOOK COLLEGE

2012

Creating Global Citizens
EXIT 2
16 April - 20 April

EXIT 3
17 September - 21 September

EXIT 4
19 November - 23 November
WHAT IS THE EXIT PROGRAM

The EXIT program is the name given to the weeks set aside in the curriculum for Years 10 and 11 students to exit the College and participate in a large variety of local, national and international experiences.

Based on the IDEALS of Round Square, the program provides stepping stones for students to build their International understanding, learn about social justice and Democracy, increase their awareness of the need for Environmental Sustainability, extend their personal boundaries through Adventure, challenge and develop Leadership skills outside of the classroom and give back to their community through Service to others.

All activities and experiences offered to students meet College objectives and are consistent with the Uniting Church Statements on Equity and Social Justice.

One of the many valuable aspects for participants is building a student profile which reflects practical involvement in the various components of the EXIT program. These experiences are documented and evaluated and the information included in a personal Student Credential Portfolio which is presented to each Year 12 student on leaving Billanook College.

The EXIT Program fosters a never stop learning philosophy that allows a student to achieve beyond academic excellence.
WHAT IS ROUND SQUARE CONFERENCE OF SCHOOLS?

Round Square is a world-wide association of 80 schools which share a commitment, beyond academic excellence, to personal development and responsibility through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding.

Round Square schools, which espouse the educational philosophy of Kurt Hahn, impel the young into challenging, instructive experiences through which they can develop:

> responsibility and care for humanity
> commitment to principles
> skill and confidence needed for effective service and leadership
> a global perspective on society and the environment

Kurt Hahn, a well-known educator and philosopher who founded two schools as well as the Outward Bound program, inspired the Round Square Conference of Schools. He believed that schools should prepare students for adulthood by enabling them to face life directly in ways that demand courage, generosity, imagination, kindness and principles.

WHY IS IT CALLED ROUND SQUARE?

In Scotland, a ‘square’ has traditionally been the administrative centre of an estate. As a result of a slight historical geometric anomaly, the ‘square’ of Gordonstoun is a perfectly circular two storey building – The Round Square. The first conference was held in this building in 1967 and it was decided to adopt the name ‘The Round Square Conference’ for the association.

ROUND SQUARE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Exchanges are a great experience for students to not only discover what it is like to be a student at an international school, but also to live in and learn about a new community. This opportunity also allows students to meet new people, make friends and to compare life at Billanook with that of the host international school.

Students will gain a valuable learning opportunity by:

> living in and experiencing a different culture/community
> investigating issues relevant to the community visited
> developing initiative, personal management and interpersonal skills
> learning outside a normal classroom environment
> expanding knowledge about local and more isolated communities

Students in the Round Square International School Exchange program are billeted with school families or in some cases, stay at the school’s boarding house.

If you would like more information on the Round Square International School Exchange program, please contact Robyn Green in Student Services.
BILLANOOK COLLEGE - 2011
ROUND SQUARE ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2011, Billanook staff and students have been very active in Round Square activities.

The Junior Round Square Conference, was held in April at St Philips College in Alice Springs. Six students were accompanied by Mrs Helen Boyle and Mr Rob Gow.

The Regional Round Square Conference was held in July at The Westminster School in Adelaide. Rev Jennie Gordon and Mr Murray George escorted five students to the conference.

In October 2011, the International Round Square Conference was hosted by Wellington College in England. Billanook College was represented by Mrs Belinda Vertriest and Mrs Julie Taylor and five Billanook students. The International Conference was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and one of our students was lucky enough to be presented to the Queen.

It is hoped that through the various conferences, delegates are stimulated to become better world citizens.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2012 WILL INCLUDE:

CONFERENCES:

The International Conference will be held at Brookhouse School, Kenya in April 2012. Selection for this conference has already taken place and six students will be accompanying Rev Jennie Gordon and Ms Robyn Green.

The Junior Round Square Conference will be held at The Armidale School, NSW in April 2012. The application process for this conference will take place in early 2012.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Service projects provide students and teachers with an opportunity to participate in meaningful activities that support people around the world. Round Square students offer non-skilled manual labour as their contribution to a service project. They also collect donations within Round Square schools to fund international projects. Round Square students and villagers work side-by-side to complete projects.

Larger projects are directed by the Round Square organisation. The organisation has the leadership, expertise and funding needed to take on complex, logistically difficult projects. Some of these projects have included school construction and disaster relief. Students at Round Square schools raise money each year to supply construction and emergency relief materials.

For further information refer to the Round Square website: www.roundsquare.org

Details of the planned Billanook College Round Square Service Project for 2012 are located on page 22.
WORK EXPERIENCE

Students complete a minimum of one Work Experience placement (or VET placement) in each year of the EXIT program.

THE BENEFITS OF WORK EXPERIENCE

Work experience provides students with the opportunity to:
> examine and access initial career choices and career opportunities which will assist them in their course and career decision making
> develop contacts with potential employers
> be exposed to the ‘real’ world of work
> find out more about work-related issues such as the impact of technological changes on work, workplace relations, occupational health and safety and rights and responsibilities of employers and employees
> develop an awareness of appropriate conditions, attitudes and behaviour for the work place
> improve their communication skills

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Due to legislative requirements, Billanook College students will only be placed on Work Experience once they are 15 years of age.

Students are not allowed to attend Work Placements unless they have completed the Safe@work program. This program has been devised so that schools can educate students about issues relating to Occupational Health and Safety and consists of two modules: General Module and Industry Based Module. Billanook has incorporated the Safe@work program into the Year 10 Pastoral program.

Students can undertake Work Experience for a maximum of 10 days per term or 40 days per year, during normal working hours, but not between 11.00pm and 6.00am.

Work Experience students are paid a minimum rate of $5.00 per day if they work more than six hours in any one day. If the employer is a Commonwealth body, or an educational, charitable or community welfare organisation, the work will be voluntary.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development provides WorkCover upon completion of the Work Experience Arrangement form. The Department is responsible for any claims made by students for WorkCover arising out of any injury or illness occurring as a result of Work Experience.

Special provisions enable a disabled student to gain Work Experience for periods beyond 10 days per term.

“I had an awesome Work Experience week, and now know what I want to do when I leave school”

Jackson, Year 11
RESPONSIBILITIES – WHO DOES WHAT?

THE BILLANOOK COLLEGE WORK EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR WILL:

> interview students to determine areas of interest
> prepare Work Experience Arrangement form for student, parent, Principal and employer to sign
> authorise, record and file completed Safe@work certificates
> guide students’ preparation for necessary telephone contact and interview (if required)
> send all relevant paperwork to employer
> provide students with a copy of the Work Experience Evaluation form and keep originals on file
> arrange for students to speak with the Careers Manager where appropriate

STUDENTS NEED TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR:

> researching career areas and liaising with the Manager, Careers Vocational Education and Training, Mr Warwick Slade
> discussing vocational interests with family and friends and
  (a) organising own placement
  OR
  (b) liaising with the Work Education Co-ordinator in order to organise a placement
> attending appointments with the Work Education Co-ordinator
> completing and returning paperwork promptly
> completing the Safe@work program and submitting General Module certificate and Industry Module certificate to Student Services
> organising own transport arrangements
> writing a letter of thanks to the employer at the completion of the placement

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please Note: Years 10 and 11 classes do not operate during EXIT weeks, so if students choose to complete their placement during School holidays they will not be required at School during EXIT week.

The College strongly discourages students from being placed with a close family member, such as a parent. This is to encourage independence and maximise the breadth of vocational experiences while allowing the young person to negotiate an unfamiliar workplace.

If students wish to undertake additional Work Experience, this may be facilitated in some circumstances. In these cases the students must find their own employer and provide the Work Education Co-ordinator with details.
Billanook students are encouraged to select Vocational Education and Training (VET) Studies as part of their VCE. Each of the VET studies requires students to complete at least one industry based Work Placement. These VET placements are completed within the EXIT program and are viewed as equivalent to Work Experience.

Please Note: Normal Years 10 and 11 classes do not operate during EXIT weeks, so if students choose to complete their placement during school holidays they will not be required at school during EXIT week.

**CERTIFICATE II VITICULTURE**

**FOOD PROCESSING (WINE)**

The aims of the VET VCE Food Processing (Wine) Program are to:

> provide participants with the foundation knowledge and skills to achieve competencies which will enhance their employment prospects within the wine sector of the Food Processing industry

> enable participants to gain a recognised credential and make a more informed choice of a career path

The rapidly growing industry creates demand for an appropriately skilled workforce covering a vast range of opportunities including experienced workers in the vineyard, viticulturalists, wine makers, tourism officers, marketers, researchers, managers, hospitality, sales, art and design, etc.

To fulfil the requirements of the Certificate II Food Processing (Wine), students need to do a minimum of two work placements over two years. It is important to note that the vineyards are generally in the Yarra Valley and public transport is normally not an option. Parents will be required to provide transport for these weeks.

Work Placement is generally available in the last week of the July holidays due to work availability at commercial vineyards. To discuss options for Work Placement, please contact Ms Donna Temme in Student Services.
CERTIFICATE III MUSIC INDUSTRY SKILLS
A two year course is available as a Year 10 - Year 11 sequence or a Year 11 - Year 12 sequence.
The VET Music Industry course develops performance, composition and related skills with a focus on real-world experiences.
It explores the five key music industry areas: music industry studies, music performance, music technology, music business, music marketing and media.
For further information on Certificate III Music Industry Skills please contact Mr Cotton.

There are no Work Placement requirements for the course.

Rock Band Tour
There is the possibility of a Rock Band Tour occurring in EXIT 4. Participation in this activity will be by invitation only. The usual participants are the VCE Music students. If you are interested in the possibility of being involved in this please select Community Service in EXIT 4. This means that if either Rock Band Tour does not go ahead or it goes ahead and you are not selected to attend, then your EXIT selections will not be affected.

CERTIFICATE III INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA
This course focuses on developing skills, knowledge and work attitudes for ongoing training in Interactive Digital Multimedia. The overall purpose of this course is to provide a structured entry level opportunity into the multimedia industry. The knowledge and many of the skills attained are transferable to other industries.

Most learning occurs through industry simulation activities following a series of design briefs across a range of software and presentation platforms.

A broad base of industry and workplace specific skills is studied, such as client communication, interview skills, portfolio presentation and occupational health and safety. Students are introduced to a range of design principles and a variety of software packages.

A week of Work Placement is encouraged but not compulsory. See Mr Roberts for details.
PHYSICS STUDY CAMP - BENALLA

For students undertaking VCE Physics Units 1 & 2

This study program provides an opportunity to study the physics of flight and to experience gliding and powered flight.

Learning physics in an everyday context is highly desirable. We consider that the field of aviation has much to offer Physics students. Many students in past years have described this study program as the most stimulating, enjoyable and interesting one that they completed in their years at Billanook.

The study program is part of the VCE Units 1 & 2 Physics course and students will be expected to complete a comprehensive work booklet.

Activities will include powered and unpowered flights (optional), workshop activities, rocketry, aeronautical theory and navigation exercises.

The cost of the study program will cover all travel, meals, accommodation, instruction and flying.

Cost:  Approx. $470

Group:  No limit on student numbers

Date:  EXIT 3
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ CAMP

The International Students’ Camp provides an excellent opportunity to familiarise young people who are new to Australia with the challenges of the great outdoors. In 2011 the International Students’ Camp was a three night / four day experience in Hobart and the surrounding areas of Tasmania.

The camp achieves a number of important objectives;
> exposure to various Australian landscapes
> appreciation of the flora and fauna and the fragile environment
> introduction to some important areas of Australian history
> socialisation of students and staff from a range of cultural backgrounds
> working as a team to prepare communal meals
> experience in applying new found English language skills in a different context

In previous years the International Students’ Camp has visited Tasmania, Echuca and Wilsons Promontory.
COMMUNITY SERVICE PLACEMENT

The benefits of volunteering

"From Meals on Wheels to Op Shops, National Parks to Nursing Homes, people who happily give their time to do something for others usually find they too, are on the receiving end."

Benefits for the students:
> develop empathy, compassion and understanding of different groups within society and in particular those less fortunate than themselves
> build a strong sense of community
> develop skills and attitudes valued by employers, including leadership and the ability to work as part of a team
> encourage a sense of belonging to a broader community
> provide volunteers with an opportunity to appreciate their own situation and to give something back to the community
> increase self-confidence
> create personal satisfaction
> provide valuable insights into a field which may influence career choice
> introduce people from a wide range of ages, backgrounds and cultures

Legal Requirements:

Students participating in Community Service as voluntary workers are covered under the Work Experience Arrangement Act. Please refer to the Work Experience section on pages 6 and 7.

In most cases, students are not paid for their Community Service as they are placed with government or ‘not for profit’ organisations. If a payment is made students would be expected to donate it back to the organisation.

Students Need To Take Responsibility For:
> discussing areas of personal interest with family, friends and Student Services staff
> organising their own placement or investigating the range of positions offered
> completing and returning paperwork to Student Placements Co-ordinator
> organising their own transport
> writing a ‘Thank You’ letter to the employer at completion of their placement
> discussing experiences and what has been learnt with other students involved in similar programs

Please Note: Normal Years 10 and 11 classes do not operate during EXIT weeks so if students choose to complete their placement during school holidays they will not be required at school during EXIT week.
FARM STAY PLACEMENT

Students may choose to complete a Farm Stay placement instead of a Community Service placement.

Students selecting a Farm Stay placement may visit either a farm or an outback station in Victoria. This is a great opportunity for students to experience what it is like to live on a working farm and to learn about a new community. Farm Stay placements allow students to meet new people, make new friends and share different experiences with the host family.

Participants will gain a valuable learning opportunity by:

> living in and experiencing a different community
> investigating issues relevant to the community visited
> developing initiative, personal management and interpersonal skills
> exploring possible future career paths
> expanding knowledge about local and more isolated communities
> providing new insights into managing the environment

Students are encouraged to research a suitable placement through family and friends.

Students are responsible for contacting their host family, and for researching transport and associated costs. Students stay with host families and offer a contribution of $15 per day to offset costs for food and transport.

A small gift and a letter of appreciation after the placement would also be appropriate.

Students need to take responsibility for completing and returning additional forms ie medical form, ‘working with animals’ form and Department of Education and Early Childhood Development ‘accommodation away from home’ form.

If you would like more information on Farm Stay placements, please contact Robyn Green in Student Services.
OUTDOOR EDUCATION

In the years leading to Year 10, Billanook students have taken part in a sequential Outdoor Education program that has, as its overall goal, the fostering of independence and responsibility. In Year 10, students have the experience, common sense and practical knowledge to be able to look after themselves in the outdoors, without too much input from group leaders.

Students in Years 10 and 11 have the opportunity to put all this experience into practice by taking part in an enjoyable program in which they have a far higher level of input. Of course there will always be instructors with the group, but their primary tasks are to maintain safety and to teach the skills and knowledge relating to that activity.

All Outdoor Education EXITs are planned to make the most of the best country Victoria has to offer and to give students the skills they will need to pursue this interest (as a recreation) later in life.

Outdoor Education is a compulsory component of every student’s Year 10 EXIT program. Students will be participating in a five-day bushwalk at either the Bogong High Plains or Wilsons Promontory. Hikes are planned to offer a variety of terrain and a degree of difficulty. Students can select the venue and level of challenge that best suits their abilities.

Year 11 students are encouraged, but not compelled, to select an Outdoor Education program. Students can choose from Surfing/Day Walking or Horse Riding.

If students want to take the ultimate step in Outdoor Education at Billanook they should consider joining ‘The Odyssey’ team. Following the principles of Kurt Hahn, the founder of Round Square, ‘The Odyssey’ is about the importance of persevering through tough times to achieve lofty goals. It is very hard going at times, but that makes the reaching of journey’s end all the more satisfying.

Be part of a team – that’s ‘The Odyssey.’

PROGRAM LOGISTICS

All Years 10 and 11 programs will be accompanied by a professional instructor and for most programs, by a College staff member.

The group size of all expeditions is limited by safety requirements.

Typically, all personal gear, food and group camping equipment is carried by students from one campsite to the next.

When a day walk or activity is scheduled, only what is required for that day will be carried. All other equipment will be left in base camp.

Accommodation is in two or three person tents or under tarps.

Specialist clothing and hardware is provided for students on all Years 10 and 11 programs. Students are expected to provide their own basic clothing needs and are also required to self-cater all meals, in pairs.

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY

Year 10 programs are designed to challenge students. All expeditions have been carefully designed and are achievable. Programs offer varying levels of difficulty. Please read the following descriptions carefully and make a considered choice based on your particular interests, fitness and other commitments.

Please Note:
Students may elect to participate in more than one camp.

Participation in additional programs is dependent on availability and is strictly on a ‘user-pays’ basis.

While we will make every effort to accommodate your selection, we cannot guarantee that you will get your first choice.

STUDENT ROLE

In Years 10 and 11 students have greater opportunity to have input into the success of their program through:

> attending each of the briefings held prior to the expedition
> planning, purchasing and cooking food
> managing their time and contributing to group decisions
> pro-actively learning the skills and knowledge required to safely complete the program

Please Note: All outdoor programs are managed by the Outdoor Education Group and comply with industry best practice. Further details of each expedition are included in the parent letter provided prior to each program.
ALPINE BUSHWALKING – YEAR 10

Location: Bogong High Plains
Grade: Medium or Difficult
Date: EXIT 2 - Three groups of 14
      EXIT 4 - Four groups of 14

These walks will take place in the Falls Creek/Mt Bogong area. Early Term 2 and at the end of Term 4 are the perfect times to visit this area with its typically cool days, clear nights and fantastic mountain scenery. Students will embark on a true journey, camping in tents and moving campsites each day.

There is the chance to choose the difficulty of your hike,

1. Summit Mt Bogong – Difficult (3 days difficult, 2 days medium)
   A climb to the summit of Mt Bogong (1986m) is a rewarding and challenging experience. The views are extensive with the far horizon dominated by the Snowy Mountains. All approaches are long and difficult and provide a grand adventure.

2. Bogong High Plains - Medium
   Whereas Mt Bogong requires a considerable expenditure of energy and a strong heart to gain the lofty summit, the peaks of the Bogong High Plains are far more attainable. Long rolling hills stretch away to the edge of the plains, beyond which can be seen the tops of distant peaks and ranges. This area has a rich history including the many historic cattlemen’s huts and aqueducts.

COASTAL BUSHWALKING – YEAR 10

Location: Wilsons Promontory
Grade: Difficult
Date: EXIT 4 - Two groups of 10

‘The Prom’ is one of Australia’s oldest and most treasured National Parks and offers some of the best walking in Victoria. Both groups will complete a route that includes the classic ‘outstation’ sites of Sealers Cove, Refuge Cove and Waterloo Bay. The scenery and the beaches are spectacular.

Outstation walking at Wilsons Promontory can be deceptively challenging, particularly when carrying a pack. Daily distances will range from just 6 km to approximately 20 km. This trip is always popular, largely because the effort is so well rewarded. The trip is suitable for anyone with a good level of fitness.
‘THE ODYSSEY’
Location: To be advised
Grade: Difficult
Group: One group of 14
Date: After EXIT 4

“Well whether you think you can or think you can’t, you are right” - Henry Ford

The Odyssey presents an opportunity to open yourself to the possibility of ignoring limitations and going beyond self-imposed boundaries. Over many years, we have seen students challenge themselves and leave behind doubt and anxiety to emerge with a strong sense of resilience and fresh perspective and a new appreciation for how strong they really are.

ARE YOU UP FOR A CHALLENGE?

The Odyssey runs for 10 days and may include Hiking, White Water Rafting, Canoeing or Sea Kayaking to some of the most remote and beautiful country that Australia has to offer. Much of the organisation and execution is undertaken by students, who also take on an active role in the overall running of their expedition and accept a higher degree of responsibility for its outcomes.

If you have an adventurous spirit and would like the opportunity to explore the outdoors with a small group of like-minded people, this program may be for you.

Please Note: There is an additional cost to participate in ‘The Odyssey’. Students who nominate this program will be invited to attend a comprehensive information evening (along with parents) prior to committing to this program.
HORSE RIDING – YEAR 11
Location: Murray River Horse Trails (Strathmerton), Barmah Forest
Grade: Beginners to advanced riders
Date: EXIT 2 - One group of 12
       EXIT 4 - One group of 12
This program is run under the care of Murray River Horse Trails who are a fully accredited and insured provider. Students will be learning many of the skills associated with riding and horse care. The program is also well known for its extremely strong pastoral focus. Some riding sessions will be held in the formal training/jumping arena but most riding sessions will be in the beautiful Barmah Forest (which runs along the Murray River). Students will be based at the horse riding centre during the evening, where they enjoy the relative comforts of a shelter, rustic couches, a wood fire, tank water and drop toilets.
Please Note: This program is suitable for riders of all skill levels (from beginner to advanced).

SURFING/DAY WALKING – YEAR 11
Location: Wilsons Promontory/ Walkerville (TBC)
Grade: Beginners to intermediate
Date: EXIT 2 - Two groups of 16
       EXIT 4 - One group of 16
The Prom is famous for its squeaky clean, white beaches and soaring granite peaks. It is also a great venue for uncrowded swimming and surfing. This program includes regular professional surfing instruction and day walks to more secluded beaches or other attractions (carrying day packs.) Surf conditions at the Prom are particularly suitable for beginner to intermediate surfers. Students will be base camping (in tents) at Tidal River, where the comforts of hot showers and toilets are available. This trip is perfect for people who prefer day hikes and who have a love of the sea and surfing. ‘Soft’ surf boards and wetsuits are provided.
REEF ‘N RAINFOREST ENVIRONMENTAL TOUR

This highly successful tour has been running since 1993. Planning has been refined and extended so that students have an outstanding experience of tropical far North Queensland.

The Reef ‘n Rainforest Environmental Tour is a ‘hands-on’ classroom where students develop an appreciation of two of the most environmentally sensitive and interesting eco-systems in Australia, the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest.

The vast array of new experiences includes:

> visiting the crocodile centre
> day and night walks in the Daintree Rainforest
> service projects in the Daintree and local nursery
> snorkelling, scuba diving the Great Barrier Reef
> the thrills of white water rafting
> throwing boomerangs and spears at Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Centre
> experience breakfast with the birds and exotic fruit tasting
> two days camping at Fitzroy Island enjoying sun, snorkelling and other water activities

Overall, the Reef ‘n Rainforest Environmental Tour is an eye opening and memorable adventure complementing educational and recreational experiences.

Cost: Approx. $2,550
Group: 18 students
Date: EXIT 3

Important: Airline tickets will be purchased at the end of March. Once the tickets are purchased the $500 deposit is non-refundable.
**TOP END CULTURAL TOUR**

Top End 2012 will be an unforgettable journey providing opportunities to view spectacular scenery, experience the joy of discovering sensational swimming holes and share ‘real time’ living with indigenous communities.

Highlights of the Top End tour have been the Milikapiti community on Melville Island and our stay at Kormilda College.

Upon an invitation from the Milikapiti community on Melville Island, students of Billanook College will participate in the day-to-day life of the community, and experience first hand many aspects of a traditional aboriginal society. A focus of our stay will be activities with Indigenous children.

The Top End Cultural Tour includes visits to Darwin City, Darwin wharf, Mindil Beach market, Cyclone Tracey display, Katherine Gorge, Mataranka hot springs Litchfield National Park, Kakadu National Park and sunset at Ubirr rock.

Darwin is the smallest and the most remote capital city in Australia. It is very much part of the great Australian Outback and the way of life is dominated by its isolation and climate. These two factors are very different from the things which influence daily life in Melbourne.

We strongly encourage students to consider this tour as it provides a truly unique opportunity.

Please Note: Students will need to commit to a pre-tour program that is designed to sensitise students to the needs of this tour.

Cost: Approx. $2,350

Group: 15 students

Date: EXIT 3

Important: Airline tickets will be purchased at the end of March. Once the tickets are purchased the $500 deposit is non-refundable.
GERMAN CULTURAL LANGUAGE TOUR

The proposed itinerary for 2012 offers extensive travel throughout Germany and Austria and provides an opportunity for immersion in the German culture, family and school life. It also includes a brief visit to Switzerland. Students are offered a 20 day tour which includes a one-week home stay with a German family and several days’ attendance at a German school. This experience can significantly improve a student’s comprehension and German-speaking ability.

The students will travel across Germany and Austria by coach. It will also include train travel including an Inner-City Express (I.C.E.) trip as well as a cruise down the Rhine River. They will pass through several states with guided tours of cities including Vienna, Salzburg, Munich, Heidelberg, Freiburg, Cologne and Berlin - visiting key places of significance. Students will visit historical villages, castles, fortresses and cathedrals dating as far back as the 12th century and will also have opportunities for shopping and general sight seeing.

All Years 10 and 11 students can apply for the tour however, students studying German in Years 10 and 11 will receive preference.

Cost: Approx. $6,100 + associated taxes
Group: 22 students
Date: EXIT 3

Important: International tours may be cancelled at late notice due to changes in circumstances eg political unrest. Billanook College will make these decisions based on the welfare of students and staff.
MALAYSIAN CULTURAL LANGUAGE TOUR

The Malaysian tour is an 11 day journey throughout the Sarawak region of Malaysia. The tour offers a range of cultural adventures and experiences for non-language students, as well as language immersion opportunities for Indonesian language students.

Highlights of the tour include a ‘jalan-jalan’ around the city of Kuching, enjoying a range of historical sites and buildings, a jungle trek in Bako National Park where a close encounter with a range of animals, including the orangutan and the proboscis and silver leaf monkeys, can be had. The tour also includes a longhouse safari experience where students take a longboat ride to a village and meet and mingle with the friendly Iban folk. Visits to a local school, crocodile farm, Fairy and Wind caves and Serian native market to shop for some local souvenirs are all part of the itinerary. The tour concludes with a couple of days at a beach resort where students can soak in the pool or swim in the South China Sea, in between visits to a cultural village to enjoy a traditional performance and try their hand at mat weaving, traditional cooking, dancing or bead making.

All Years 10 and 11 students can apply for the tour; however students studying Indonesian in Years 10 and 11 will receive preference.

Cost: Approx. $3,100 + associated taxes
Group: 22 students
Date: EXIT 3

NEW ZEALAND GEOGRAPHY STUDY TOUR

The New Zealand Geography Tour to the North Island focuses on volcanoes, geothermal activity, rainforests, and rivers and the spectacular landforms found in these natural environments. It supports studies from Year 8 Geography, Year 10 Geography and VCE Studies of Geography. It is like visiting Hawaii, the rainforest of Asia, and volcanic mountains of Japan all in one small country!

The aims of the tour are to enhance an understanding of volcanoes, and a variety of natural environments you have studied, provide an international experience where students get a taste of the Maori culture (we will experience a hangi and Maori dance in Rotorua), provide a challenge in climbing a volcano, develop patience, understanding and collegiality amongst the students and to inspire an interest in learning further about environments found on Earth and the study of Geography.

All Years 10 and 11 students can apply for the tour.

Cost: Approx. $3,300 + associated taxes
Group: 20 students
Date: July holidays

Important: International tours may be cancelled at late notice due to changes in circumstances, eg political unrest. Billanook College will make these decisions based on the welfare of students and staff.
INTERNATIONAL PROJECT – NORTHERN THAILAND

This unique experience combines a service project with international travel and an opportunity to embrace the culture and lifestyle of the hilltribe people in Northern Thailand.

Students will participate in meaningful and challenging activities that support these communities. It is an outstanding opportunity to develop leadership skills by taking on new challenges and contributing to a vital service project.

Past projects have involved students:

> installing water supply systems
> painting school buildings
> assisting in repairs/construction of school buildings
> building vegetable gardens and fences
> constructing children’s playgrounds
> building a bathroom/toilet facility

The project delivers an obvious benefit to the village and its people, as well as providing a life-changing experience.

Billanook students provide the physical labour for projects, so participants need to be willing and able to work hard in challenging conditions.

Student numbers on the project are limited. If oversubscribed, Year 11s will receive preference and a selection process will take place.

Cost: Approx $4,300 + associated taxes

Group: 14 students

Date: After EXIT 4
ITALY ART TOUR (2013)

The aim of this tour is to take a group of art lovers from Billanook to Italy; to be inspired; to draw and paint in Tuscany; to gain insight into the broad fields of painting, architecture and sculpture, and to study the western visual arts tradition as it evolved in Rome, Florence and Venice.

This tour will cover extensive learning of ancient Roman, early Christian, medieval, renaissance baroque periods, giving deeper meaning and understanding of the classic tradition and the rebellion of modern art. The tour activities and content relate to both the art appreciation and practical side of our program. The tour will also take in contemporary design, food and culture including a four-day stay in a farmhouse/villa in rural Tuscany. We will visit local artists, studios and spend time doing personal art works in the fields of drawing, painting, sculpture and photography.

This 15-day tour is open to students in Years 10 and 11 who have a love of art and wish to expand their knowledge, skills and appreciation.

NORTH AMERICA SNOW AND SPORT TOUR (2013)

This tour is an opportunity for sports minded students to travel through North America on 20 days of non-stop sporting action. Previous tours have travelled to San Francisco, Vancouver and Los Angeles. Students may have the opportunity to witness first hand NBA Basketball, NHL Ice Hockey and NFL American Football. In addition they will be able to participate in the best winter sports on offer including six to seven days skiing or snowboarding in beautiful fresh powder snow, ice skating and curling.

Whilst in Los Angeles students will take a break from sporting pursuits by checking out Disneyland and Universal Studios with the possibility of visiting a major US College/University to see their sporting programs and facilities. The North America Snow and Sport Tour is always a huge success with all students reporting that they had an “awesome time”.

Important: International tours may be cancelled at late notice due to changes in circumstances, eg political unrest. Billanook College will make these decisions based on the welfare of students and staff.
STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN EXITS

All students are strongly encouraged to consider the interstate and overseas EXITs as part of their Senior School experience. Students who wish to attend such an EXIT should express their interest through the EXIT Preference Form. College staff will then consider the application on the basis of selection criteria. These will include general criteria that apply to all tours and others which are specific to the particular demands of certain tours. The criteria are designed to enhance the safety and well being of all students and staff on a tour.

General selection criteria:

> Respect for College expectations
> Co-operation with staff and students
> Ability to relate sensitively and thoughtfully to other members of the group
> Maturity
> Suitability to represent the College
> Ability to travel independently – eg. follow instructions and take initiative
> Health – the student needs to be able to manage the strenuous demands of travel without putting their health or the well being of the group at risk.

Each of these criteria would be assessed on the basis of the student’s behaviour in all College activities.

A student’s involvement in an interstate or overseas EXIT may be reviewed at any time if in the opinion of College staff the student’s circumstances change such that this brings into question their ability to demonstrate the selection criteria. Healthcare must be informed of any changes to medical issues that may impact on a student’s participation in a tour.

The College may determine that a student is not a suitable candidate for the tour. This may occur regardless of any payments made or bookings in place. In the event of a serious breach of College expectations during the period leading up to the tour, parents will have to bear the costs of any deposits, airfare or other costs that are unable to be refunded.

As part of the normal preparation for national and international tours, it is important that the College is aware of any medical conditions that may adversely impact on the student’s involvement on the tour.

Should any specific medical conditions be identified, the College, parents, student and relevant support staff will work together to investigate the circumstances and, where appropriate, develop a management plan.
CAN YOU OFFER BILLANOOK COLLEGE STUDENTS A WORK EXPERIENCE, COMMUNITY SERVICE OR FARM PLACEMENT?

To ensure the students have the best possible opportunities to experience life in the workplace and service to others we need people to offer Work Experience, Community Service or Farm Stay placements.

If you are unable to help do you know anyone who could assist us?

Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Work Experience Placement
Contact: Donna Temme
Phone: 9724 1148
Email: donna.temme@billanook.vic.edu.au

Community Service or Farm Placement
Contact: Robyn Green
Phone: 9724 1154
Email: robyn.green@billanook.vic.edu.au