



In the Classroom



Passing on life skills

By Caitlyn Morgan
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MILDURA Senior College VCAL students got a lesson on life and how to prepare for the workforce yesterday.

More than 100 Year 11 students took part in the financial literacy unit workshop.

VCAL literacy teacher Kim Bathe said the workshop began with a talk from a panel of four industry leaders followed by four workshops.

"This was a round-up of everything they have learnt in the financial literacy unit," Ms Bathe said.

"In the unit, they did lots of life skills and followed the life of an apprentice.

"They had to fill out a rental form, go to Centrelink, apply for a car loan and work out the apprentice's weekly budget."

The panel included industry leaders from Structa-Shed, Walters Excavations, A&G Engineering and a regional mental health worker.

"There wasn't a single peep from the students, it was amazing – they were all really engaged," Ms Bathe said.

"The panel spoke about interview skills, social media, the importance of finding out about your potential employer, expectations once employed and how to present yourself."



Katrina Wootton and Louise Kerr, from Ray White Mildura, spoke to the students, including Ebonee Newson, 17, and Ellie Adams, 16, inset, about renting and real estate.

The workshops were run by representatives from Mallee Family Care, ANZ, Ray White Mildura and Sunraysia Institute of TAFE.

"Legal and financial counsel- lor Allie Collyer from Mallee Family Care discussed mobile phone contracts and what would hap-

pen when they don't pay their bill as well as Afterpay, which is something they all use," Ms Bathe said.

"Manda Richardson from

ANZ bank talked about finance, loans, credit cards and bank ac- counts.

"Louise Kerr from Ray White

talked about rentals and Deidre Reid from SuniTAFE discussed the education side of being an apprentice and about continuing to study."

Ms Bathe said that based on the students' feedback, the work- shop could become part of the curriculum each year.

Pictures: Louise Donges

Little monsters set to light up the stage

RANFURLY Primary School students will take to the stage this week for the performance of the musical *We Are Monsters*.

The production will be performed at Mildura Arts Centre tomorrow and Friday at 7.30pm.

Tickets are \$12 and can be bought online at milduraartscentre.com.au.

Breakfast program thanks its supporters

THE Mildura Region School Breakfast Partnership hosted its first sponsors' breakfast last week.

More than 70 guests attended to acknowledge the businesses that provided funding to support breakfast programs in local schools during the 2016-17 financial year.

Guests included Mildura Mayor Glenn Milne, Cr Ali Cupper, school principals, breakfast program co-ordinators and student representatives.

Education fund to help new arrivals

NSW Education Minister Rob Stokes last week announced \$2.7 million to help non-government schools cater for the influx of refugees arriving under the humanitarian intake from Syria and Iraq.

Newly-arrived refugees attending Catholic and independent schools will benefit from grant that will fund intensive language tuition and other specialist support.

The level of funding for non-government schools is based on the maximum state funding rate.

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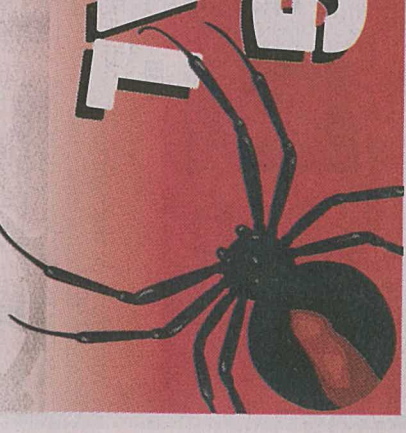
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