College Principal’s Report

Over the last fortnight, we have had a selection of significant events in addition to the already busy curricular activities. On Sunday Feb 15 and Monday Feb 16 the entire College Leadership Team, 15 staff in all, undertook a series of leadership building activities and worked on reviewing the College’s current Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan is a guiding document that is prepared every four years and puts in place targets and goals for the successful performance of the school over the duration of the plan. The School Council, teaching and non-teaching staff and members of the community all have input into this throughout the process. Our current plan was originally put in place in 2011 and is due to expire at the end of this year. As a part of this process, during this year we will undertake a school review and formulate our 2016 – 2020 Strategic Plan. With this in mind, I also encourage parents, particularly those new to our school community, to consider applying for a position on the Yarra Hills Secondary College School Council. Involvement as a School Councillor is a rewarding endeavour and gives participants not only an insight into the machinations involved in running a multi-campus school, but an opportunity to have some say in the direction and decisions made across the college. I strongly encourage you to consider this, as the tenure of many current councillors expires in the coming weeks and others will depart as their youngest child has left the school. Information in regard to this process is enclosed later in this newsletter.
From the Mooroolbark Campus Principal

It has continued to be a busy start to the year, as we reach the half way point of Term 1 already. I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of our Year 7 parents who supported the school at two of our important dates on the College calendar for Year 7 families this term.

Firstly we had parents attend our information night on our Values Immersion Program (VIP). We were lucky enough to have Darren Pereira, a well know motivational speaker, run this evening. This was followed by the student VIP session with all our Year 7’s from both campuses at Mooroolbark on Tuesday 17 February. This session was run by Rachel Lynch our Director of Teaching and Learning. There were lots of positive feedback about both seminars. Our Year 8 VIP program runs next week on March 2.

The second event was our BBQ, Music Expo and Year 7 Camp Information night on Tuesday February 17. We were so pleased to see many parents attending to find out about our Music program, and to see bands and teachers in action. It was great for our Year 7 Coordinators and some of the Year 7 staff mingle and chat with students and their families.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish one of valued English teachers, Cayt Mirra all the best as she goes on Maternity Leave and look forward to her return in Term 3. Amy Savory will replace Cayt at the Mooroolbark Campus. Amy was with us last year as an Intern from Deakin University. Amy will be a valued member of our Year 8 and 9 English teams and we look forward to her expertise and energy.

I would like to thank parents for using our drop-off and pick-up zone correctly, and remind our parent community to not park in the Bus Bay zones before and after school. This helps avoid congestion and a potential accidents.
From the Mt Evelyn Campus Principal

Another two weeks fly by and students are well into the routine of timetables, classes and homework. Year 7 students are very much at home with their surroundings and getting to know many other students throughout the campus. Downball is a favourite pastime for many students at lunchtime as well as craft club. I cannot believe that holidays are only 4 weeks away!

The Music Expo and Camp information night was a fantastic evening and it was lovely chatting to so many parents on the night. It was clear parents were impressed with no technology invited to camp. To have 40 students sign up for the instrumental program was brilliant! Our band is growing beautifully each year and to have so many new students join is just fantastic. I can’t wait for the College concert to see their performance.

Last Tuesday night Darren Trippett, Greg Cowan and I were fortunate to be invited to a Rotary night which showcased students from schools within our area who have been involved in many Rotary funded projects. Rhys McMillan (year 10) spoke about his experiences on Camp Awakenings last year and entertained the crowd with his great sense of humour. Jess Foley also spoke about her experience with the public speaking competition where she made it to the semi-final. Jess naturally spoke so well of what she learned from the experience. We were all so proud of Rhys and Jess. Rotary continue to provide these courses each year and I encourage all students, if given the opportunity, to get involved in these programs. The experience is so beneficial for increasing confidence, broadening knowledge and improving leadership skills.

We have a busy few weeks ahead of us and I hope all families received their invite to our very special assembly on Tuesday March 10 at 10am. We are fortunate to secure a presentation by Veteran Affairs for the centenary of the first landing of the ANZACS in Gallipoli. After this presentation we plan to present all our student leaders with their badges and morning tea will follow. If parents wish to join us, and we welcome all families, please contact the office to reserve your seats by March 2.

Robyn Dew
Mt Evelyn Campus Principal
Wandin North HARVEST MARKET

220 Warburton Highway
Wandin North 3139

Sunday 15th March
9.00am - 2.00pm

Quality Craft, Fresh Produce, Food and Activities.
Free Entertainment and Free Parking

Stallholders Welcome
Phone Megan Gibbons 03 5964 4259

PLAYERS WANTED
CROYDON RAMS BASEBALL CLUB

Come & join us for the 2015 Winter Baseball Season

No Experience Necessary

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<tr>
<th>T-Ball Comp</th>
<th>Junior Comp</th>
<th>Senior Comp</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ages 5-9</td>
<td>Ages 8 to 16</td>
<td>Ages 14 &amp; over</td>
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Come & Try Day
SATURDAY 14th March 10am – 12noon
at BARNGEONG RESERVE

Bambral Street, Croydon
For more info, call Robyn
0421 177 158
robyn@infoexchange.org.au

www.croydon.baseball.com.au

Walking in Autistic Shoes
An autism presentation and question-answer forum with renowned author, lecturer and autism consultant Donna Williams, BA Hons, Dip Ed.

Born in 1963, thought deaf and assessed as psychotic at the age of two, Donna Williams acquired functional speech in late childhood and was diagnosed with Autism in her late 20’s.

Donna gained post graduate qualifications as a sociologist and teacher, became the author of ten books in the field of Autism, is an artist, musician and international public speakers since 1994 and Autism consultant since 1996.

Thursday 26th March 7.30—9.30p.m.
Seville Community House
Bookings: 5964 3987 or info@sevillecommhouse.org.au

A fun class for upper primary and secondary school students. Stencil art is a popular style both in street art and in galleries.

Learn from an experienced street artist creating your own piece using all aspects of stencil art including computer design, cutting and painting.

Tues 17th & 24th March
Time: 4p.m—5.30p.m.
Cost: $40
All materials supplied

Email: info@sevillecommhouse.org.au
To all those parents/guardians who regularly inform the school when their child is absent, it is greatly appreciated.

A REMINDER

It is a Department requirement that the school is informed of any student absences due to either illness/medical or personal reasons.

MOOROOLBARK CAMPUS Please leave a phone message on our Designated Absence line – 9839 8899 or email nye.kym.k@edumail.vic.gov.au (Wed, Thurs, Fri) or rogers.deborah.a@edumail.vic.gov.au (Mon & Tues)

MT EVELYN CAMPUS Please call or leave a phone message on 9736 3650 or email kuipers.heather.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

Notification would be appreciated prior to 9.00am each morning of the student’s absence. If it is not possible to phone or email, a note the following day handed in directly to the office or the Homegroup teacher.

Any prior knowledge of a student’s absence due to extended holidays or medical leave should be handed in writing to either office administration staff or the homegroup teacher.

It is a Department requirement that VCE students absent during an Exam, Gat or SAC are to produce a medical certificate for those days.
CHANGES TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS TAX FILE NUMBER PROGRAM IN 2015

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN.

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for “QC27248”

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for “QC22804”

The ATO will continue working with teachers to educate students about tax and superannuation. The curriculum resource Tax, Super & You is a free, easy to use, online educational resource aligned to the school curriculum of each state and territory. This resource can be accessed at taxsuperandyou.gov.au

In the coming weeks we will provide more information by email on how students can apply for a TFN and the educational services we can provide. In the meantime if you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Regards

Steve Vesperman
Deputy Commissioner of Taxation

TUTORING – MATHS/PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY

DAVID BAILEY
FORMER YARRA HILLS STUDENT
REASONABLE RATES
TUTORING AT HOME OR SCHOOL.

PH: 0430 396 269

Australia Government
Australian Taxation Office

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