MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

Staffing
We welcome Ms Rosie Tait to the college, she commenced last Monday in the Chemistry, Science and Maths position.

Swimming Carnival
Finally we had fantastic weather for the swimming carnival and a great lot of enthusiastic swimmers and supporters. It was a terrific day for students to compete and get to know each other in between events. The staff did a terrific job organising the events. Thank you to Ms Dempster and the sports captains for organising the day.

World of Work
Year 10 students are off to the World of Work Program in the city this week. This program really assists students in thinking about what they would like to do with their future and in clarifying what success in life means. It is very successful in assisting students to take responsibility for punctuality, their learning and the impression they make at school and in the community.

Student Learning
A reminder that all students should have all their books and equipment and a school diary. Students should be settled into a good working routine and recording how much time they spend on homework in their diary. Parent Teacher interviews will be held on Thursday 27 March so this will provide parents with the opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss your daughters learning.

VCE information night
We were really pleased to have guest speakers at the VCE Information Evening. Ling from Medibank gave a very informative talk about the foods we eat and the foods we should eat. Leanne from the Footscray Community Police provided advice about how to keep ourselves safe. Thank you to Lilli Clancy for organizing the guest speakers.

Celebrating International Women’s Day
Our SRC representatives and the Class Captains have the opportunity to invite their mother or a significant female in their lives to our International Women’s Day Breakfast. This is part of our leadership program and we are looking forward to Acting Sergeant Lee-anne sharing her career journey with us on Friday.

Student insurance and ambulance cover
This is a reminder for schools that the Department does not provide accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. The cost of any medical attention or ambulance for a student will be borne by the parent/guardian. Parents are liable for all medical expenses incurred because of student injury, including transport costs such as ambulance or air ambulance costs.

Student Attendance
Attendance at school every day is important for your daughter to maintain an understanding with their classwork and ensure their work can be authenticated by their teachers. The Government is introducing changes to the attendance requirements and I have provided information later in this newsletter.

College Council
I am still needing Parent reps for College Council so if you would like to join Council please ask your daughter to collect a self-nomination form from the office. Council meets twice a term on a Monday night, usually from 6.00 – 8.00.

Bette Prange
Principal

EDUCATION QUOTE  “One of the most important keys to Success is having the discipline to do what you know you should do, even when you don’t feel like doing it.”  - Unknown
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

We are now exactly half way through term one. It seems like the summer break was months ago as the focus on being at school gains momentum.

I was extremely pleased with the attendance of Year 7 and 8 parents and students at the community evening held on Tuesday the 18th of September. The bar-b-q went well, with a special thanks to Joe and Shona Mercaldi for being such excellent chefs.

The swimming sports last Tuesday provided the opportunity for staff and students to enjoy a day out of the classroom. The weather proved to be a winner- not too hot and not too cold. The outstanding Junior School participant was Scout McLeod-Smith. Ms Dempster and Ms Baker are to be congratulated for the work they put in to make the day a success.

Teachers are beginning to collate information for the end of term reports. It is important that all Junior School students hand in all set work requirements properly completed and on time.

A reminder, all students are required to be in the correct summer uniform.

Ian Reilly- Junior School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

We are now into Week 6 which means that we are at the half way mark of the term. Students in the senior school are busy with assessment tasks so it is critical that they are at school everyday. If a student misses a SAC then a medical certificate must be provided along with the correct paperwork for consideration of a re-sit.

Reflecting on the last two weeks the Year 10 students were busy preparing for World of Work which they are attending this week. We do look forward to a report and some photos when it is all over. Students not on the program are still expected every day at school attending normal classes.

Year 11 and 12 students had their Information Nights on Thursday 20th February 2014. It was highly successful night well attended by both students and their parents/guardians. The three workshops including an overview of the year ahead in terms of what VCE is all about, personal safety and healthy eating.

Lee-Anne, a police officer from Footscray station talked about the importance of being aware wherever we are and taking precautions when using ATMS etc. Ling from Medibank Private helped me to realise how unhealthy I was and that I needed to eat healthy food more regularly in smaller portions. Lee-Anne the community liaison officer from Footscray Police Station reminded us to be cautious at all times and never put ourselves in vulnerable situations. Elesha Williams

If you have any concerns please let me know and the best form of contact is by email:
voidis.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Helen Voidis                              Senior School Leader

REFLECTIONS BY YEAR 12 STUDENTS ON THE RECENT GUIDE TO PEAK PERFORMANCE PRESENTATIONS

Both my mother and I found all three presentations to be informative and well-organised. Kayla shared with us her journey and reminded us that we should not give up and to give Year 12 our best shot. It was all about balancing friendships, family and study. Stefani Varasandi-Nunez

The Year 12 presentation reassured me that while it will be a rollercoaster year it is still worth the effort. Kayla Edmiston, one of the graduates from the class of 2013 emphasised the importance of balancing our study with our personal lives and to make every moment count, as it is a last year of secondary school. Ling the dietician from Medibank Private helped me to realise how unhealthy I was and that I needed to eat healthy food more regularly in smaller portions. Lee-Anne the community liaison officer from Footscray Police Station reminded us to be cautious at all times and never put ourselves in vulnerable situations. Elesha Williams

Introducing new staff

Ms Sarah DeBarros

My name is Sarah DeBarros. I am the new Student Wellbeing Worker. Last year I had the opportunity to complete my placement at the College as a pre-service teacher and have been lucky enough to join the team. I have worked...
Ms Naomi McQueen

Hello to all, I am really pleased to start my teaching career at Gilmore College for Girls. I am teaching Food Technology, Textiles and Year 12 Visual Communication. While it has been a really busy start to the year I have really enjoyed getting to know the girls. I went to school in Victoria but had to move to South Australia to do the course I wanted.

Ms Rosie Tait

Ms Tait (Rosanna) joins us from La Trobe University, where she studied both her bachelor’s degree in Medicinal Chemistry and Graduate Diploma of Education. She recently relocated to Footscray from her hometown in Northeast Victoria. She is teaching Science, Maths and Chemistry. She is hoping to get more girls interested in science through activities such as science week.

Careers News

Ready Set Design

Workshop series for students who are currently studying Units 3 & 4 of an art or design subject, and who are interested in studying design at a university or TAFE.

Ready Set Design comprises three half-day workshops, held on Saturdays during the school holidays.

Design Bytes – options for further study and careers in the design industry.
Folio Bytes – hands on session designed to help students develop their folios
Interview Bytes – explores interview techniques and how to succeed in an interview scenario.

Free for attending students - students can register by going to

http://www.rmit.edu.au/students/services/readysetdesign
and completing the online form.

For further information see Ms Mueller

University of Melbourne Veterinary Science Open Day

Sunday 16th March

250 Princes Highway, Werribee 10 am – 3 pm

For further information see Ms Mueller

Student Attendance – ‘It’s Not OK to be away

We all want our daughters to get a great education, and to establish the foundation for success at the end of secondary school. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your daughter’s education. Missing a day of school puts them behind.

Missing school can have a big impact on students both academically and socially. It affects their academic achievement and progress in learning, just as importantly, it affects their relationships with other students, and can contribute to social isolation.

Each day a student misses puts them behind. A student missing one day a fortnight at Year 7 will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

At times your daughter may be too ill to attend and in this case we would prefer she stays home to get better and so other students do not fall ill.

If your daughter is absent for any reason on their return they should:
• speak with their teachers to find out what work they need to catch up
• provide a note explaining the absence.

The Government is introducing new laws from 1 March 2014. These laws could result in parents being fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If your daughter’s attendance is causing you concern, please let their Coordinator know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Remember, every day counts.

Swimming sports

This year Wattle was the winning house..
Health Chat

Secondary School Immunisation Program

Each year immunisation nurses come to Gilmore Girls College to provide eligible students with free immunisations. This is an Australian government initiative and occurs throughout all secondary schools. Immunisations are an important proactive approach to prevent illness and outbreaks of disease. All vaccines in Australia must pass stringent safety testing over many years before being approved for use.

As the immunisations are government funded, students must have their vaccine at the targeted age to be eligible for the FREE immunisations.

The immunisation program for secondary school students consists of the following:

- **Varicella (Chicken Pox)** □ Year 7 girls
- HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) 3 doses
- **Diptheria, Tetanus & Pertussis** (Whooping cough) □ Year 10 girls

Immunisations cannot be provided without parent/guardian consent. All students should have received consent cards. These cards must be signed and returned to school regardless of the choice made. Anyone who does not have their consent card/s can obtain them from Mr Reilly’s office.

The date for immunisations is **Wednesday 2nd April**. All students should ensure they have had a good breakfast and plenty of water on the day.

Further information can be found online at [www.immunise.health.gov.au](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au) or by speaking to our School Health Promotion Nurse- Michelle Hynson.

Michelle Hynson - School Health Promotion Nurse (Tues/Fri)

Homework club is an opportunity for all students across the college complete quiet study and homework tasks before they leave for home. There is also the opportunity to seek assistance from volunteer tutors. Students are also asked to sign in and out and are supervised by a co-ordinator during this time. Homework club is voluntary and all are welcome.

When: Tuesday and Thursday 3-6pm and Wednesday 3-5pm

Where: In the school library

Netbook Program

A reminder to all students on the Netbook program that students are to bring their netbook to school every day fully charged. New students can access a netbook from the library until attendance at a parent meeting occurs.
Secondhand Desktops for sale

We are selling the G7 and library computers.

They are Acer Veriton S480 Core 2 Duo PCs, Specs below.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>160 G</th>
<th>Intel Core 2 Duo</th>
<th>2.7 GHz</th>
<th>2GB RAM</th>
<th>19” LCD Monitor</th>
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They will come with Vista OS, antivirus software and open office.

Cost: $120.

Great desktop for home internet browsing and home work.

See the Technicians if you would like one. Can be picked up from IT department.

GILMORE HEALTHY COMMUNITY CO-OP

WHAT: Gardening Club

WHEN: Thursdays from 10.30am

WHERE: Horticulture Centre

WHO: Parents, students & staff

Children welcome.

Let’s create a garden oasis with the help of all members of the school community. In time, we will use our produce to cook up a storm.

If you have any questions please ask Bette Prange or Lilli Clancy.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!
RSVP by Monday 18th Feb

Jen Hoy, Assistant Principal
9689 4788 or hoy.jennifer.e@edumail.vic.gov.au