MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

I am looking forward to meeting with many parents again at our upcoming Parent Teacher Interviews. It is always good to hear positive feedback on your daughter’s progress along with suggestions for improvement.

Celebrating International Women’s Day
On Friday March 7 we celebrated International Women’s day with the class captions, SRC reps and their mothers or a significant female in their life. Val produced an excellent breakfast and our guest speaker Senior Constable Lee-Anne Dainer spoke about her pathway into the police force and aspects of her current role. We still read in the papers about the inequality in pay in some jobs and it continues to amaze me that horses get more coverage in the sporting pages than our sports women. Our journey to equality is not finished!

Multicultural Week
This week we celebrate the multicultural nature of Australia and our school community. There are a number of activities planned and the highlight of the week will be the Multicultural Day festivities. Parent are welcome to attend the lunch with their daughter and to view the fashion parade and performance.

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. Parents can assist by making appointments after school and on Saturdays where possible.

Uniform
With the weather being highly changeable it is important that the girls have either the college jumper, the college jacket or the blazer. Other jackets are not permitted.

College Council
I am still needing two 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
‘Eighty percent of success is showing up.’ – Woody Allen
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

With three weeks to go before the end of term it seems first term has just flown by. No doubt everyone is looking forward to the Easter break. It is really important that students realise that the term does not end until the 4th of April. The expectations are the same as if the term has just started. Students are expected to be on time to school, in uniform and willing to learn.

At the present time Circles teachers are writing reports and in particular, noting student absences. If a student is unable to attend school, parents can contact the school by phone or write a note in their daughter’s diary. It is important all missed days from school are accounted for as soon as the student returns to school.

I feel that the attitude of students across the Junior School has been extremely positive in terms of being to school on time and being in uniform. I am very much appreciative of the efforts made by both parents and students to ensure students are in uniform and on time. A reminder, that the school expects all students to be in summer uniform up until the end of term.

At the present time students across the Junior School are undertaking ‘on-demand’ literacy assessments. This allows teachers to have a greater appreciation of student literacy levels. It is expected that all students across the Junior School will be reading consistently at home during the week. It is important that parents support this process at home with their own daughters. It revolves around asking key questions about ‘what are you learning?’ and ‘how do you think you can improve?’

Ian Reilly- Junior School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

The end of term is fast approaching but not before parent/teacher interviews and interim reports. It is important for parents/guardians of our senior students to make appointments to see all of their child’s teachers on Thursday 27th March. Feedback on student progress is critical to identify areas for improvement and address any issues that may have arisen during the term.

The Year 10 students returned to school after a successful week at the World of Work Program in the city. They all had positive experiences and identified an increase in confidence as one good outcome from the program. They should now be organising their two-week work experience for next term.

I am in the midst of finalising the Year 11 compulsory study skills camp, which is offsite at Bacchus Marsh in the last week of this term. Students need to return all forms: medical and permission form. Parents/guardians need to finalise the payment of $240, which is now due in full to the front office, covering the cost of the campsite, food, activities and transport. All students are expected to attend, as there will be formal classes and team building activities along with some study skills workshops which will not be repeated this year.

Year 12 students are in the midst of SAC’s at the moment. If a student does miss a SAC then a medical certificate is required along with the completion of the appropriate form from the handbook. The next sitting of missed SAC’s in this Saturday 22nd March at 10.00 a.m. in the conference room under the Principal’s supervision.

Last Thursday 13th March Jade Peace a former student and school captain visited the school and addressed the Year 12 cohort regarding the Access Program at the University of Melbourne. She shared her experiences and journey after Year 12 and stressed the importance of including courses at Melbourne as part of the 12 preferences that students can nominate during the VTAC process.

Finally our College Captain and Vice Captains Sara and Elena Batleska recently attended the annual Rotary International Women’s Day breakfast at the Palladium (Crown Complex) as invited guests of the Footscray Rotary Club. Both students enjoyed a scrumptious breakfast and the opportunity to listen to some high profile female speakers.

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
**INTERVIEW VENUE**  
Enter the building through the main doors which face Geelong Road and register your attendance at the table provided.  
Please be on time for each appointment.

**PARKING** is available in Barkly St, Geelong Road or Malden St.

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**YEAR 7 TO 12 - PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**  
**Thursday, March 27th, 2014**  
**2pm to 7pm in the Science Building**

**INTERIM REPORTS** can be collected on the evening of the 27th of March.

All of your daughter's teachers are listed on the report.  
We strongly recommend all parents/guardians make every effort to speak with their daughter's teachers about progress to date and opportunities for further improvement.

**BOOKING INTERVIEW TIMES ONLINE**

Parents will use an online booking system to secure interview times and will be able to book times which are convenient for them without relying on their daughter to make the arrangements.

Simple to follow, detailed instructions will show you how to reserve interview times online and the School Event Code. This information is set out in a document given to your daughter in her Circles group.

The online system automatically emails you confirmation of the times you book.

Parents who do not have internet access at home will be able to use the computer available in the office area at the school to access the online booking system.  
Office staff can provide assistance if required.

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**News from the Italian Classes**

Ahhhhh......the spirit of the Italian Carnevale, isn’t it wonderful dressing in costumes and masks! Speaking of masks, the year 7’s have been making them in Italian to coincide with the carnevale in Venice, Italy. Firstly we had to decide whether to make a full face or half face mask. Then we made a design to go on it and gathered all the materials we needed. The most common materials were: rhinestones, paint, glitter, feathers and ribbons. We then showed them off in a parade. You can see our wonderful masks in the cabinet in the front office. Bravo!
Chemistry Assessment Year 12

Students conducted an extended investigation recently and performed three analyses. Here the students are performing a gravimetric analysis to determine the amount of sulphur in garden fertiliser. They are adding barium chloride to make a precipitate which they are shown filtering by vacuum pressure in the next photograph.

Careers News

Try a Trade Day

The MMV LLEN is partnering up with Maribyrnong City Council Youth Services to deliver the 2014 Try a Trade. The event will be held in Term 2 on Thursday 29th May 2014. The venue is the Phoenix Youth Centre at 72 Buckley Street Footscray and is accessed easily by train.

The Try a Trade has run since 2009. It is a fantastic way for students to explore the world of Trades. A majority of the Exhibitors are local TAFE and Training providers and they take into account skills shortage areas. They all have interactive activities that young people participate in. This may be of interest to students who might be leaving at the end of the year or for some of the Year 10’s interested in pursuing a trade or including VET in their studies.

Girls interested should see Ms Mueller.

Advanced Engineering Workshop
For Year 11 & 12 Students

9 April 2014 9.30 am – 10 April 2014 2.30 pm
La Trobe University, Bundoora (two day workshop)

This two day workshop gives you an opportunity to explore in depth different engineering disciplines. Each day begins with career presentations by engineers from the local community. Then in a group with other students, you will address a model problem, considering the issues, testing materials, designing solutions and producing proposals. Your proposal will then be assessed by an engineer and you will get to build and test the solution to see if it works. Each day you will have the chance to choose a different field of Engineering.

*This activity requires students to currently be undertaking VCE Maths Methods. Students also studying Specialist Maths and/or, Physics are particularly encouraged to apply.

Registration

Expressions of interest by Friday 21 March 2014

Students can click on the ‘Student Application’ box at the bottom of the page
**Students in Year 9 & 10 interested in engineering**

Are you interested in learning about what Engineers do? Do you enjoy science and maths? Take part in fun and challenging activities while finding out how exciting the Engineering profession can be at a LEAP Engineering Experience event. In this half day session you will have an opportunity to participate in hands-on activities that will give you a new perspective on the Engineering profession and different fields within it, as well as learning more about making the leap to university.

A LEAP Engineering Experience has been organised for Year 9 and 10 students in this region. This event will take place on the 2nd of May between 10am and 1 pm at VU Sunshine campus.

Girls interested should see Ms Mueller.

**Health Industry: Information for VCE students**

11 April 2014, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

The Alfred Hospital, Prahran, Melbourne

Are you in VCE and considering a career in the health industry? Why not join us for a ‘Next step’ workshop.

Attending this half day information session will help you to demystify university life as you make the next step to a career in Health.

Whether you have made your decision about which career to pursue or you are still in the process of weighing up your options this program will assist you in many ways. You will be introduced to the many career choices in the health sector by university staff with years of experience. Presenters will also talk you through some of the new and exciting experiences that are part of undertaking a university course, such as practical placements.

We can help you with self-motivation to do well in your VCE and achieve your potential in Year 12. You will gain experience in study skills and goal setting which will help you through your final years of secondary school, many of the study tips you will be able to take through to your university study. Come and hear current students and recent graduates speak about their university experiences and ask them questions in a relaxed setting.

Find out about the different support services that are available for all university students, learn about all the people and places on a campus that are there to help you and see the range of different resources available to make your journey through university exciting and rewarding, allowing you to perform at your best.

Life at university is not just about study. The ‘Next step’ workshop will also showcase the diversity of exciting clubs and societies you can get involved with while you undertake your course.

There will be so much advice and assistance in this half day workshop it's one not to be missed.

Please note - This activity will run in a hospital setting.

Expressions of interest due by Friday 28 March

To register follow this link and click the student application [http://www.leap.vic.edu.au/leap-activities/health/events/204-year-10-12-next-step-health-workshop](http://www.leap.vic.edu.au/leap-activities/health/events/204-year-10-12-next-step-health-workshop)

Ms Mueller

Careers Advisor

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**Gilmore Interschool Debating Teams**

**Debating competition commences 19th March 2014**

Gilmore has entered two teams into the Debating Association of Victoria Inter School debating competition held at Williamstown High school on Wednesday evenings. The C grade (year 10 team), Shona Merealdi, Sara El Houli, Holley Leyland and Christine Urayenza will be debating the topic “That the national curriculum should seek to promote Australian values” arguing for the Affirmative. Other topics to be debated in this Section are:” That we should not grant developing countries the right to host major international sporting events”, “That we should abolish the minimum wage”, a secret topic around the area of Arts and Entertainment and also one totally secret topic to be announced one hour before the debate. Wish the girls luck.

The D grade team(year 9) consisting of Sophie Gunn, Abbey Henstridge, Chloe Rowlands, Georgina Clancy and Lily Baker will argue for the affirmative in their first debate against Westbourne Grammar "That we should ban gender-specific advertising of toys." In the second debate “That we should punish sporting teams for their fans’ violent behaviour” Gilmore argues for the negative against Williamstown High School. In the third round Gilmore competes against Suzanne Cory High School arguing “That we should not require all social networks to offer parents full access to their children’s accounts.” The final two debate topics are “That the media should not be allowed to report on the private lives of politicians” and “That we should ban examinations in schools. Help the students out with any ideas, arguments and evidence that you can offer.
Tyrone, a member of DAV and a student at Melbourne University studying Arts visited the school to help the girls with their arguments Friday 14th March. Tyrone represented his University in the World Debating competition in India held over the summer break.

Ms Jarman and Ms McQueen

Health Chat

The importance of Water

The human body is made up of 50-75% water and as we can’t store water, we need fresh supplies everyday. The amount of water we need to drink depends on many factors such as our body size, metabolism, the weather, the foods we eat and of course our activity levels.

Sources of fluid can include drinking fresh water, milk or tea or even eating fresh fruit. Sweet drinks such as soft drink, fruit juices and cordial should be limited.

It is important to avoid becoming dehydrated as we want to avoid symptoms such as headaches, thirst, dry/cracked lips, weakness, dark-coloured urine and/or tiredness.

Water is essential for the body to function including maintaining the health and integrity of our body’s cells by carrying nutrients and oxygen to cells, keeping the bloodstream liquid enough to flow through blood vessels, regulating the body temperature through sweating, reducing the risk of bladder infections, aiding digestion and preventing constipation and moisturising the skin to maintain its texture and appearance.


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

Safe School Travel

With some minor preparation, travelling to and from school either via public transport or walking can be enjoyable and safe for everyone.

Here are just a couple of small tips from your local Footscray Police as to how you can travel safely.

- **Plan your trip.** Where you are going? How long do you intend to be? Which route you are taking? It’s always good to have these things planned out before leaving home or school.

- **Let people know where you are.** Letting family or friends know where you are and what times you’re travelling is always a good idea.

- **Travel with a friend.** Pairing up with a friend or walking in a group is a good way to improve your safety.

- **Pay attention to your surroundings.** Familiarising yourself with the public transport facilities you use. Remember key street names. Take notice of the location of public telephone boxes along the trip. When walking keep to well travelled well-lit routes and avoid shortcuts. Be mindful when using headphones as you may not hear approaching danger or be fully alert to traffic and other surroundings.

Adopting just a couple of these tips can make sure you have a safe trip to and from school each day. Safety is everybody’s responsibility.

Footscray Community Police
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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>160 GB</th>
<th>Intel Core 2 Duo</th>
<th>2.7 GHz</th>
<th>2GB RAM</th>
<th>19” LCD Monitor</th>
</tr>
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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