MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to Term 3. This term will be very busy with planning underway for 2016. There will be a number of parent meetings in relation to subject selection, VCE and post school pathways so please make sure you plan to attend.

Staffing
Welcome back to Ms Burt, Ms Rendina and Mr Reilly. We also welcome Ms Koltovska who is replacing Ms Mikin and Mr Dean Mitchelmore who is replacing Ms Vendetti, who are both taking some Long Service Leave.

International Baccalaureate Learner Profile
Each newsletter I will highlight one of the Learner Profile attributes so that our community becomes familiar with each attribute.
The focus for this newsletter is: Communicator.
We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively; listen carefully to the perspective of other individuals and groups. (IB Learner Profile).

In a global context it is important for students who have a first language to maintain their communication skills as this will be really important in relation to their work opportunities and for life in a multicultural society. There are many ways in which we communicate with each other and a range of purposes behind that communication.

Students communicate through writing and speaking, they communicate electronically, orally and in written form; and occasional non-verbal form. The purpose of the communication needs clarification; to whom are they communicating and what form of communication is appropriate? For visual and oral presentations the students need to consider their audience and the message they are conveying.

Help shape the education state
The best way to get involved is to go to educationstate.education.vic.gov.au where you can join in the online conversations or register to attend one of the sessions running across the state throughout July.

Program for Students with Disabilities
As part of the Victorian Government commitment to make Victoria the Education State, the Department of Education and Training has begun a review into how schools can better support students with special needs – including those with autism and dyslexia.

The review into the Program for Students with disabilities includes the opportunity for parents to tell the Department what they think of the current program and how it can be improved.

Renowned human rights practitioner and Australia's former Disability Commissioner, Dr Graeme Innes, will lead face-to-face consultations for the review which is designed to guide and improve our Department's approach to providing support to students with additional needs.

You can get involved by taking an online survey which will be available from September via: www.education.vic.gov.au/specialneedsplan

Your responses will help shape the Education State and encourage creative solutions to providing outstanding special needs education in Victoria.

Reports
All reports were mailed home so please check that the office has your correct mailing details if you have not received the report.

Bette Prange
Principal

EDUCATION QUOTE: “The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential ... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.”
Confucius
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

After the mid-year break it was very pleasing to see the way students across the Junior School have settled into the familiar routine of getting to class on time and being prepared for learning.

I must admit that having had second term off on long service leave getting back into the swing of things has been a challenge but this adjustment has been much easier by the welcome back I have received from both staff and students. A special thanks to Ms. Vendetti for the excellent job she did in my absence.

The last week of second term saw a group of 11 students go on camp to Balmoral Secondary College for four days. The feedback from staff and students has been really positive. A special thanks to Ms. Taut, Ms. Cooper and Ms. Hardi for their work in organising and attending the camp.

Over the term break parents should have received their daughter’s report for first semester. I have read over a summary of each student’s report. I have been particularly pleased with the general level of commitment and achievement demonstrated across the year levels. The report process is an important part of the on-going conversation between students, parents and staff. If, as a parent, you have a query or question regarding your daughter’s report you should not hesitate in contacting the school to discuss this matter.

Throughout third term there will be a continuing focus on the essential skills of communication and self-management. It is important that students regularly read at home to expose themselves to new and different words. Students must ensure all homework tasks are completed and the proper equipment is brought to class.

I hope staff, students and parents enjoyed the two week break and I look forward to a successful second half of the school year.

Mr Reilly - Junior School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to Term 3 – I hope that all our senior students and their families have had an enjoyable break. It is now time to focus on school again and it is a very busy term as always, especially for our Year 12 students.

The term has kicked off with Year 12 students attending their very important tertiary information session at Victoria University in Footscray last Tuesday 14th July. They listened to a range of speakers regarding the VTAC application process and the decisions that needed to be made before the end of the term. They also had the opportunity to speak with representatives from a range of tertiary institutions regarding courses and pathways for next year.

The final of the four Aspirations sessions was held on Wednesday 15th July with the workshop focusing on interview skills, resumes and how to be work ready. The Year 11 students who have attended the four sessions have certainly developed their confidence, their independence and teamwork skills and we commend them for their participation, contribution and exemplary behaviour.

On Friday 17th July a group of Year 11 students attended an English writing enrichment program at Victoria University. The feedback from both students and parents has been very positive and we thank Ms Eichler for organizing this.

Year 10 students have returned from their work placement last term and will be given the opportunity to share some of their experiences in their upcoming MIPS classes. The students have gained a better understanding of the world of work through these placements which included the police, Melbourne University and Myers.

The mid-year reports were posted out at the end of last term and it is important that parents review these with their daughter and reflect on their performance. I will continue to meet with parents where there are concerns about academic progress. I am also happy to meet with parents to discuss these reports. Please email me voidis.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au or ring the school on 9689 4788 for an appointment.

Finally the usual reminders that students are to be in full school winter uniform and on time to school. Detentions will be issued this week for those who are late on three days. It is important that students are on time in class to avoid missing out on teacher instructions and school work.

Helen Voidis Senior School Leader

Class Attendance

Research confirms a strong link between attendance and student outcomes.

Gilmore College for Girls understands the importance of student attendance. The college has worked hard to identify and mitigate factors that impact on student engagement and attendance. Over the past five years we have made a huge impact in improving our attendance records. This has been achieved by working cooperatively in a three-way partnership between the school, students and parents.
Our community is now ready to take the next step! We are aiming high - zero unexplained/unauthorized absences. To achieve this we need to further improve our processes and procedures.

**What will now happen if a student has not shown up to school by 10am?**

If students are marked absent from Period 1 and/or Circles without an explanation or authorization an SMS will be sent to the parents/guardians in the morning. The SMS will request parents to authorize the absence.

**What can parents/guardians do to assist?**

If parents or guardians know in advance that their child will be away from school, they can ring the attendance line on **9689 4310**

Alternatively, parents or guardians can email the school on gilmoregirls.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

Any of the above options will prevent an SMS being sent from the school on the morning of your daughter’s absence.

**Mr Paul Nucci**  
**Assistant Principal**

**Year 10 Textiles Design**

During last semester the Year 10 students worked on pattern drafting and insertion of a zip as they designed and made a skirt.

**Year 10 Rock climbing**

On a beautiful Wednesday afternoon 10b and some of 10a went to the city to go rock climbing for our P.E. class. We arrived at Footscray station around 10:15 and caught the city loop train to Melbourne central. When we arrived to Melbourne central we got time to buy food and wander around. Whilst the day continued we walked to the rock climbing centre which is down near Swanston St. The view was amazing from the rock climbing centre as we sat down and listened to our instructor Gemma who talked to us about the basic rules of rock climbing and the safety instructions. After that we got started. Maddie A and I started off at the smaller walls then slowly we went to the big walls. It was really
challenging for us but we got the hang of it as we both climbed our way to the top. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day and we would all like to thank our teacher Ms Baker.

Written By Alexandra Davies 10b

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability - ‘Collection Notice’
All schools in Australia, including Independent and Catholic schools, will participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability this year.
The Data Collection is an annual count of the number of students with disability receiving educational adjustments to support their participation in education on the same basis as students without disability.
All education agencies are now required under the Australian Education Regulation 2013 to provide information on a student’s level of education, disability and level of adjustment to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.* Data will continue to be de-identified prior to its transfer to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. No student’s identity will be provided to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.
The collection of this information from states and territories will inform future policy and program planning in relation to students with disability.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Prange on 9689 4788 or the Victorian Department of Education and Training Data Collection Hotline on (03) 9651 3621.
For questions after 7 August 2015, please call the Australian Government Department of Education and Training on 1300 566 046.
For more information on Schedule 3 - Amendments for the collection of data on students who are persons with a disability Australian Education Regulation 2013, please see: http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723/Html/Text#

Year 9 Balmoral Camp
The last week of Term 2 eleven year nine girls went on the yearly Balmoral camp exchange in South Western Victoria. Balmoral township is so lovely and we experienced the way country people live and ‘do life’. We did lots of activities, such as fishing and visiting a local farm where we saw the animals up close; feeding cows, petting lambs and watching the chickens.

We visited and learned about the Balmoral Police Station and what Police work looks like in a country town.

Visiting the local school was a highlight as we interacted with students from different grade levels and talked about our cultural backgrounds. We all felt the Balmoral students were very friendly and welcoming and had good manners. Some other activities we did were visiting a cricket museum and enjoying a trivia night one evening.

Overall we all loved meeting the students of Balmoral and spending time with them, playing games and socializing around the campfire... it was an experience to remember.

Amira & Seibelline
The Last Supper

Year 9 EAL students asked our school this very important question

*If it was your last meal, what would you eat?*

**Amira:** Pasta, because pasta is my favorite food. Pineapple and egg pasta.

**Seibelline:** Pizza, because pizza is nice. Maybe a double cheese burger.

**Lucy:** Steak, because I guess the steak is expensive.

**Sophie:** Apple pie. Because it’s nice and yummy

**Chloe:** Pasta. Because my mum can make a good pasta. She’s the best cook.

**Sandra:** Noodle soup. It’s kind of warm and it’s nice.

Careers Chat

**Career Expo**
The 2015 Melbourne Career Expo comes up on 24th - 26th July at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Southbank. Students may download a free entry ticket by following the link below:


Parents, family, and friends may also wish to attend.

The Melbourne Career Expo is the largest and most comprehensive careers event in Australia. This expo encompasses all career opportunities from employment to education and training in the trades, corporate and professional sectors.

It exhibits a vast array of career advice, large University and training representation, and employment opportunities.

With so much career information under one roof, this event is a must for all Victorian’s seeking a successful future.

For further information please visit our website: careerexpo.com.au or feel free to call us on 03 9620 9920.

**Food Handling Certificate**

All students in year 10 will participate in and complete a Food Safety Certificate during Advance classes. This course involves using hygienic practices for food safety and will be useful for all students but especially for those who may be seeking part time jobs in the food industry. This nationally accredited course has been designed for people involved in food preparation and provides basic hygiene principles for all food handlers. The course covers correct storage temperatures; dealing with danger foods; personal hygiene for staff members; cleaning food preparation areas; prevention measures in the kitchen; pest control.

**Nationally Accredited**

This program is nationally accredited as ‘Use hygienic practices for food safety’ (SITXFSA101) by the Australian National Training Authority and all students who meet the standards of this course will be awarded a certificate.

Note: The Commonwealth Government has recently introduced ‘Unique Student Identifier’ numbers. It is mandatory that all students participating in this course register for a free USI prior to commencement.
Registering takes only a few minutes. You need to go to the following website and have on hand one of the following for identification: Medicare Card; Drivers licence; Australian Passport; Visa (with non-Australian passport).


- UMAT 2015 will be held on the 29th of July 2015. Registration deadline is 5th of June 2015, 5pm AEST. Students can register for the UMAT only via the ACER website. http://umat.acer.edu.au/about-umat

Melbourne Careers Expo

The Melbourne Career Expo encompasses all career opportunities from employment to education and training in the trades, corporate and professional sectors.

With over 20,000 attendees including jobseekers, apprentices, students and Graduates, this is a fantastic opportunity for VCE students to investigate their future career pathways.

It exhibits a vast array of career advice, employment opportunities, large University and training representation, and a ‘hands on’ Skills Industry Hub. Now in its 14th consecutive year, the event will be held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre on Friday 24 July to Sunday 26 July 2015.

See the website for further information:


If you have any questions please see Ms Mueller.

Asthma Victoria News

Expert Q & A @ The Royal Children’s Hospital
On Sunday 28 June 2015, The Asthma Foundation of Victoria, in partnership with The Royal Children’s Hospital and Royal Melbourne Hospital held a FREE Q&A Panel Event focusing on ‘Managing Asthma and Allergy’.

The Expert Panel consisted of respiratory and allergy specialists, who addressed questions and concerns and engaged in informative discussion with participants in the audience. The attendance was great and we were pleased to see a number of School Nurses and parents there. A big thank you to all who attended!

If you missed out on this event, it has been recorded and will be available on our website www.asthma.org.au in the next few weeks.

National Asthma Week (NAW)

Once again, National Asthma Week will be held in the first week of September. This is a week for us to raise awareness about asthma in our communities.

The theme this year is ‘You Care, We Care—Our Asthma Community’

Health Chat

The Maribyrnong Youth Directory is now live at

www.maribyrnongyouthdirectory.com.au

The directory is an online resource for young people, parents and organisations to find up-to-date information about the support and services for young people in the City of Maribyrnong.

The service system can be confusing, and knowing where to go for help can be difficult. We hope this directory will help connect more young people with the supports they need.

It will not replace our service, and Maribyrnong Youth Services is as committed as ever to providing support and information/referral to any young people requiring it. Young people can access support through the Phoenix Youth Centre, 72 Buckley Street, Footscray from Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5pm.

The directory can be accessed straight through the link, or through this website by clicking on the ‘Youth Directory’ tab at the top of the screen. When clicking on the link, this is what the screen looks like. You can then browse from there.

Maribyrnong Youth Services Directory

Michelle Hynson - Adolescent School Health Promotion Nurse Monday and Tuesday
Seeking Accommodation for International Students.

We have a number of students from China who are seeking accommodation from next term while they study at the College.

Homestay is full board accommodation for which a student pays $250 - $300 per week. It includes providing a room, study facilities, meals and a family life.

The benefits to a family include cultural exchange and new experiences, fulfilment in helping young people and the opportunity to develop ongoing, lifetime relationships. It can also give parents the opportunity to stay involved with the college after their own children have graduated.

If you would like to host a student or just obtain more information about homestay, please contact the college.

Mr Walker - International Student Coordinator
(ISC) Gilmore College for Girls