MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello All

Welcome back. I hope all students had a nice break. This term will be very busy with the preparations and planning for 2017 getting underway.

Re-Opening of the Phoenix Centre
I attended the celebration in recognition of the reopening of the Phoenix Centre on the last day of term. This venue provides a range of activities for the young people of Footscray to engage in.

Former student.
When attending a meeting at the Phoenix Centre at the end of last term I was pleased to see an ex-student who has commenced a Business Administration traineeship there.

Year 10 Work Experience
During the last week of term the Year 10 students completed their work placement. It is a good opportunity for students to experience the world of work and hopefully it provides some clarity about what they would like to do in the future.

Student End of Semester Reports
All the reports were mailed during the last week of term. Please discuss your daughter’s report with them. Some reports indicate the need for improved organisational skills so if that applies to your daughter please support her in learning to use her diary and in setting time aside to complete homework.

International Baccalaureate Learner Profile
The focus for this newsletter is: Risk-takers
Students approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies, they are brave and articulate in defending their beliefs. (IB Learner Profile)

Students firstly gain an understanding of what it means to be a risk taker with their learning that might mean attempting to answer a question, volunteering for something they might not know about or offering to give the first presentation. They then reflect on how they felt and think about going outside their comfort zone more often and to challenge themselves with their learning, not to do the easy things.

Information meetings
During this term we will hold a number of information sessions for students and parents. This includes a VTAC Information session for Year 12 students and parents, VCE Information sessions and a Year 9 parent meeting. Please endeavor to attend these meetings to support your daughter. Refer to Compass and notices sent home for dates and times.

Punctuality
It appears that some parents are dropping their daughters at school in sufficient time to be in class with the right equipment, ready for learning. However we suspect that some girls go down the street to Footscray shops to meet their friends after they are dropped off. As a consequence they are late to school. Please check your daughter’s arrival time at school; lateness is recorded on Compass.

Fire Alarm
During the last week of term the fire alarm went off twice during the morning. I was impressed by the orderly manner in which the students evacuated the classrooms. While we do conduct a drill twice a year – this was not a drill and we were uncertain why the alarm sounded so we needed to evacuate, well done students! One of the sensors was found to be faulty and has been replaced.

Bette Prange
Principal

EDUCATION QUOTE: “Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.” Arthur Ashe
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

After a very enjoyable 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.

The last week of term two saw a group Year 9 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 Hardi and Ms Taunt for their work in organising and attending the camp.

Over the term break parents should have received their daughter’s report for first semester. Before posting I read through the reports of a class at each of the year levels. I was particularly pleased with the general level of commitment and achievement demonstrated across the year level. The report process is an important part of the ongoing 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 literacy and writing across all levels in the junior school. It is important that students regularly read at home to expose themselves to new and different words. It is helpful if parents read through essays and written tasks. Ask what happened in maths today or what was learnt in drama.

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

Ian Reilly         Junior School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to all our senior students after two weeks of a well-deserved break. Parents/guardians received their daughter’s mid-year report just before the end of the term through the post. I am meeting with some parents to discuss specific student’s progress. Each report should be read carefully with your daughter and discussed to highlight areas of potential improvement for Semester 2. If you want to meet with me to discuss your daughter’s progress further please email me: voidis.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au or call the office on 9689 4788.

Year 12 students started this term focused on thinking about their pathways beyond VCE. We attended the annual tertiary information session (TIS) held at Victoria University last Tuesday 12th July, where the students were able to speak to a range of university and TAFE representatives to help them in their decision-making for next year.

On Monday 18th of July the Year 12 students along with the Year 11’s attended a presentation through the team at Success Integrated to help them improve their motivation and stay focused on the journey ahead in terms of commitment, study and revision. The photos will be included in the next newsletter.

The final of the four Aspirations sessions will be held this Friday 22nd of July and the students will have an opportunity to showcase the skills they have developed over the course of these four valuable workshops.

Helen Nguyen and Victoria Puyat of Year 10 are busy helping to organise the annual Victorian All Girls’ School Leadership Conference coming up at the end of August. Expressions of interest have been sought from the Year 10 girls to fill the eight places that are available.

Over the holidays three of our students attended the Sparks Engineering Camp which is available to secondary school students to experience university life at Melbourne University and see what courses in engineering have to offer. Abbey Henstridge, Shrynna Sharma and Lien To of Year 11 were successful in gaining a place and came back very enthusiastic, having enjoyed everything that the camp had to offer them.

Finally the Year 10 students have settled back into a routine of school and their studies after a week of work experience last term. The feedback from the girls was very positive and a number of employers took the time to provide glowing reports about the solid work ethic that our students displayed on their work placements. They also completed their personal projects as part of the Year 10 middle year international baccalaureate program and are to be congratulated for their efforts.

Helen Voidis         Senior School Leader

Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion

On Wednesday the 13th as part of the annual Law Week program, the Year 12 Legal Studies class attended a series of lectures and activities at RMIT in Swanston St. The opening lecture was given by Rob Hulls, the former Victorian Attorney-General. His message to the students involved a look at his own life whereby he didn’t get enough marks to get into a law course after year 12 yet ended up becoming the Attorney-General of Victoria. Another highlight was a mock court in the old Magistrates Court in Russell St.

Mr. Reilly
SRC REPORT

The fundraising focus for the SRC last term was for the Cancer Council of Victoria. The Biggest Morning Tea was held on Thursday June 23rd for staff and every member of the SRC brought yummy food to share. On the last day of the term it was the traditional out of uniform day and the total amount raised from the two fundraising events was $420. Thank you to everyone for their support of these events.

This term the SRC will be involved with the forthcoming literacy and book week and the annual disco is currently being organised.

SRC Team 2016

200 Hundred Years of Fashion

On the 14th of June, the fashion students in years 10 and 11 attended the exhibition ‘200 Hundred Years of Fashion’ at the NGV. Students were led through the exhibition by a very informative guide who explained the development of fashion styles throughout the last two centuries. Over 120 works from more than ninety designers were exhibited for the first time. Students saw intricately decorated dresses made by hand before the advent of the sewing machine as well as the development of styles during influential social and political climates.

Year 8 Excursion

On June 17, just before the start of Refugee Week, the year 8s went on an excursion to Footscray Community Arts Centre to see the exhibition Heartlands 2016 Arts Project: Stories from Refugee Youth.

The film they watched features young people from refugee backgrounds telling their stories about their unique settlement journeys in Australia. Among the ten young people on screen, one was Maryam Sathat Sobhani, a student from 8A, who recited the moving poem she wrote about her experience and feelings and for which she was awarded a poetry award.

The girls really enjoyed their visit to the FCAC and showed their support to Maryam.

Ms Ciabattta.
Gilmoral Exchange

The last week of Term 2, eleven year nine students went on the annual Gilmore-Balmoral, Rocklands camp in the Wimmera region. The Gilmore girls had an amazing time visiting and getting to know the year 9 students and surrounding sites of Balmoral School and township.

Each of the girls had a favourite experience with the different activities on camp from playing games and doing group activities, to visiting the sheep farm and police station to roasting marshmallow around the campfire. However, getting to know the Balmoral students, country food and shared mealtimes were a definite highlight for all of the girls. The Gilmore girls were inspired and motivated by the character and lifestyle of the students from Balmoral.

The Gilmore Girls unanimously stated the Balmoral students are respectful, loyal, kind and gentle in nature. The girls acknowledge the different way of life in the country compared to the city and will hold fast to the treasured memories of the Gilmoral Exchange.

Presenting to the Primary students.

The local view.

All the girls are looking forward to the return visit in December.

by Ms Beverley Hardi

It took about 5 hours to get there. When we arrived we met 6 students from Balmoral. At first we were really shy to meet them but after we got to know each other we became really close and felt like we have been friends for a long time. We played a lot of activities to get to know each other. The highlight of the camp was playing
spotlight and having a bonfire, cooking marshmallows and some people cooked apples. It was very sad when we had to leave but we were sure that we will remember the moments.

Written by Rasha & Soffi

"... We didn’t know we were making memoires but we knew we were having fun!" Rasha Haniman

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**Health Chat**

Term 3 can be a tough time for students and their motivation levels. They have been working hard, they can be tired, and the cold weather doesn’t help. So it is really important to have a healthy attitude and mindset so that motivation can kick in and get them through the second half of the year.

Here are some positive tips to help create a healthy mindset – for students and their families:

- **I can’t do it…yet.** The way we talk to ourselves in our mind (our self-talk) has a really big impact on what we actually achieve. If you tell yourself that you can do it, chances are that you will; even if it doesn’t happen straight away.

- **Challenge accepted.** Next time someone throws an unfamiliar or tricky task your way, don’t throw it back at them – embrace it. Even if you stuff up along the way, you can be sure that next time you’ll do better.

- **Do some hard work.** You’re unlikely to reach your goals if you’re not putting in the effort to match. Put the hard work in and you’ll be able to enjoy the rewards.

- **There is no such thing as perfect** – there is always room for improvement. Always put as much effort as you can into the learning process. Practice your skills and make an effort to learn new ones. Last time we checked, the guitar isn’t going to learn itself.

- **Celebrate** the big successes, AND the small ones.

- **Be open to new ways of doing things.** You can never be sure of how something is going to pan out if you’ve never tried it before. Before you make the assumption that something will never work, ask yourself “Why won’t it work?”

- **Don’t let setbacks get you down.** When you come across setbacks, think about things that have helped in that situation before, and things that haven’t. Take feedback on board, and make changes accordingly. Setbacks don’t mean you’ve failed; just that you need to try a different approach.

If you are feeling concerned or worried about your mindset, or someone else’s, try talking to someone you trust; a family member, friend or teacher. You can always come and have a chat to someone in the wellbeing office, or we can help you find someone in the community.

For references, resources and more information visit [ReachOut.com](http://ReachOut.com)

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**For Sale**

1 x New School blazer and spray jacket for $120
Never worn (student exit).
Size: 105 (Size 16?)

1 x ‘as new’ school blazer and spray jacket for $110 – Size 8.

Phone the office for more information: 9689 4788

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**Homework Club**

We have homework Club in the library each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after school. There is a Homework Club coordinator and tutors available to support your daughters with their homework.

On Tuesday and Thursday Homework Club operates until 6.00 and on Wednesdays it is 5.00.

Students sign in and sign out of Homework Club and they must be there to study.
Pierre de Coubertin award

Congratulations to Sadaf (Year 11) who is our Pierre de Coubertin award recipient. Sadaf is an outstanding leader and hard working athlete. She is a black belt (first Dan) taekwondo fighter. Starting taekwondo when she was only nine years old, Sadaf has been competing for seven years now. During this time, Sadaf has produced some exceptional results. Her most recent accomplishment was winning a gold medal in Victorian Championships. Aside from taekwondo, Sadaf is talented in basketball, volleyball and soccer. Sadaf also completed The Whitten Project in the past. Sadaf is now looking forward to the upcoming Olympic Academy and Award Ceremony to be held on June 23rd at MCG.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all students who recently competed in interschool cross country. It was an excellent day and many of our students performed exceptionally well. Gilmore had a squad of 18 athletes. Twelve progressed through to the next competition (WMR Cross Country) which was held on June 8th at Brimbank Park.

See below for interschool results:
- Elizabeth Worland (12 yr old) 1st
- Tuna Mabok (17-20 yr old) 3rd
- Ava Colton (14 yr old) 3rd
- Aisha Barakat (16 yr old) 3rd
- Gabby El Houli (17-20 yr old) 4th
- Macy El Hawli (17-20 yr old) 5th
- Jade Tang (16 yr old) 5th
- Yolande Arinda (14 yr old) 6th
- Jaime-Caila Colomb (16 yr old) 6th
- Julia Ngo (16 yr old) 7th
- Maryam Sathat Sobhani (14 yr old) 7th

The girls performed very well at WMR Cross Country recently. Well done girls!

Interschool sport

It has been an extremely busy term for interschool sport. There have been many events throughout the term our students have competed in. See below for highlights:

- Intermediate team competing at WMR Softball in Geelong
- Two year 7 students (Ivy and Ruby) selected to be part of Year 8 netball team
- Several year 8 students selected to be part of Intermediate soccer team
- Joanna (Year 9) scoring multiple goals (intermediate soccer)
- Dilara (Year 9) performing outstanding role as goalie (intermediate soccer)

All badminton results (across all year levels). Several teams are now looking forward to competing in All Schools Championships later in the year.
## FUTURE COLLEGE EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Year 11 2012 parent meeting.</td>
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<td>Thursday 18 August</td>
<td>VCAL Information Evening</td>
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<td>Friday 26 August</td>
<td>Book Week Performance Years 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>Friday 2 September</td>
<td>Official Opening of Science Centre</td>
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<td>Friday 23 September</td>
<td>End of Term 3</td>
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