MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I feel there has been a positive start to the year and the girls are all engaged with their leaning.

**Student Leadership**

Congratulations to Chloe Rowlands-Fraser who is College Captain this year, working with Vice Captain Lien To.

Also I would like to congratulate all our Student Leaders who were recently elected to the positions of Class Captain or SRC Representative.

**Year 12 Study Camp**

The Year 12 students were provided an excellent program to help achieve great success in their final year of secondary schooling. The students enjoyed their visit to the Docklands Library which is an excellent place to study.

**VCE meetings**

Whilst I could not join you on the night I thank all those parents who attended the VCE Information sessions in support of your daughter. It was pleasing to hear so many parents attended.

**Visit from Korea**

During next month we will welcome a visiting teacher from Korea who will spend some time placed at Gilmore College for Girls learning about the Victorian education system. As many of you will know, each year we have classes of our students communicate with classes in Korean schools. We have done this for a number of years now and the students really enjoy the exchange of information.

**Swimming Sports**

I encourage all students to attend the College Swimming Carnival tomorrow. This is always a great day of competition and ‘dress-up.’ While I understand that not all students can swim in the events, we do provide a range of novelty events that everyone can participate in.

**Building works**

It is a relief to know we are drawing to the end of the building works. The end result is excellent but the interruption to classrooms has been a problem we are happy to see the end of. I did get to spend some time with the Year 8 Food/Hort classes last week as they made use of the time out of the classroom to plant seasonal vegetables and plant some herbs. The students will now research recipes to make with their vegetables and herbs.

**School Council Elections**

The process for forming a new College Council needs to be finalized by the end of March so I am seeking interested parents to fill the positions on Council. There are three parent position vacancies. The process is that nominations are received, (parents can self nominate or have someone nominate them). If the number of nominations exceeds the number of positions then an election is held.

If you are interested in being on Council please contact myself or Maria Kitanovski to find out more about how Council operates.

**Lateness**

It is very important that students are on time to school and ready for learning. Students must be at school by 8.40. Please be aware that three ‘lates’ to school result in an after school detention.

**Uniform**

Please note that the hems on the uniforms are a ‘false hem’ so that it can be adjusted as required. That does mean however that students/families will need to reinforce the hem as it will come undone easily.

**Insurance**

A StudentCover information letter has been distributed to your daughter. It is up to each family if you would like to consider insurance cover.

Bette Prange
Principal

**EDUCATION QUOTE:** "Always do your best. Whatever you plant now, you will harvest later." Og Mandio
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS
The term is now in full swing. We have finished three full weeks of school and the focus across the Junior School is on students working to the best of their abilities to achieve the best possible results in their interim reports due at the end of the term.

For students to achieve the best results they must have all the relevant text books and equipment. During the week I have spoken to several students about the need to ensure they have the appropriate text books. It’s hard to do the work if you don’t have the books.

I have also had conversations with a number of Year 7 and 8 students about the importance of using their diaries to record work requirements and due dates for assignments.

On the 28th of February we will be holding a Junior School Information Evening for both parents and students across the Junior School. Planning for the evening will be made much easier if parents return the attendance slip on the invitation letter.

Throughout the term, on Thursdays, a detention class will be held after school between 3:15 and 4:00. Students who have been late to school on three or more occasions will be expected to attend this class.

Mr Ian Reilly Junior School Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS
We are now into Week 4 of a nine week term so it is essential that our students are organized in terms of their textbooks, subjects, lockers and school uniform.

The last two weeks have been very busy with the Year 12 three-day Study Skills Conference held at Victoria University and the VCE Information Evenings. Both were very successful events.

The three-day Year 12 conference focused on setting the scene for a productive year ahead for our students. There was a range of workshops including motivation, time management, and re-visiting the VCAA rules. One of the highlights was the workshop presented by David Verdugo from Success Integrated. I encourage parents and students to visit the website and checkout the study skills link including an interactive homework planner.

The visit to the Docklands Library was also a highlight with the Year 12 cohort receiving a tour of the impressive facilities that are available at the library and the additional resources students can use to help support them through their Year 12.

The VCE Information Evenings held last Thursday 16th February were well attended by parents and their daughters. For the Year 11 students key information about the Study Skills Camp and the upcoming Aspirations Program were distributed. For the Year 12 families the presentation focused on reminding parents about the importance of working as a partnership to support our Year 12 students during the next nine months.

Year 10 students are busy with their personal projects and will be meeting with their mentors over the next week to discuss their progress and the timelines for both completion and submission. They are also in the midst of organising their work experience which is earlier this year having been moved to Monday the 1st through to Friday the 5th of May - early in Term 2.

Finally can I encourage all parents and students to use Compass for regular communication with teachers or myself to ensure that any issues or concerns are resolved promptly. This means that the front office should have the most up-to-date emails to facilitate this process. Or alternatively I can be emailed voidis.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ms Helen Voidis Senior School Leader

Reminder School Photo Day
Friday 24th February

Remember to bring your envelopes with the CORRECT money.

University of New South Wales ICAS tests.
If any student wishes to sit for the ICAS English or Science tests can you see Ms Vogiatzakis or Ms Thorbjornsen

Acer Netbooks for sale.

There is a number of second hand Acer Netbooks available for purchase. Perfect for browsing the web and light word processing etc. They can be purchased for $30. Please pay at office and pick up from IT.

Acer aspire One 753, Intel Celeron 1.2 Ghz, 4 GB Ram, 300 gb HDD.
Homework Club

Homework Club is conducted in the college Library on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week.

On Tuesday and Thursday it is from 3.20-6.00 and on Wednesday 3.20 – 5.00.

Homework Club commences - Tuesday the 7th Feb 17

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student misses out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their achievements.

CSEF will be provided to eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students

Contact the school office for an application form. A current health care card/pension card will need to be presented. Applications close 23 June 2017.

Further Information

Health Chat  Immunisations

When your daughter reaches adolescence, they need some vaccine ‘boosters’ in order to maintain protection against diseases. There are also vaccines that become available that are most effective when given at this age.

Immunisation remains the safest and most effective way to stop the spread of many of the world’s most infectious diseases. Immunisation not only protects those people who have been vaccinated, but it also protects those in the community who may be unable to receive vaccines themselves.

Education around immunisations is built into the year 7 curriculum. There are some great resources that will be used to inform your child about immunisations and why they are so important.

We have a schedule of immunisations that will be provided to the year 7’s at school – the first date being the 19th April, then 28th June and 25th October.

Immunisations offered at this time will be:

- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine – three doses**
  Students are given three injections with two months between the first and second dose and four months between the second and third dose.

- **Chickenpox (Varicella) vaccine – one dose**

- **Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine – one dose**
  This vaccine protects against the three diseases in a single injection. Your child will have been vaccinated against these diseases in early childhood but an adolescent dose is recommended to boost protection.

If your daughter has missed out, is unable to receive the vaccination for some reason, or you are unsure of what immunisations they have already received, contact your local GP or council and you can receive immunisations at a different time.

More information regarding immunisations will be sent home closer to the date.

Your local council immunisation service may contact you about the Secondary School Vaccine Program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose.

To learn more about the Secondary School Vaccine Program, the vaccines, the diseases they protect against, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination, go to:

- Your local council immunisation service
- Your doctor
- www.immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

Francesca Scales – Health Promotion Nurse
Second Hand Uniform
Ms De Barros has a number of uniform pieces if anyone is interested please see her. The following list gives you an idea of the items for sale.

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Homestay for International Students
Do you want to share your home with a student from overseas? Do you know someone with a spare room?

Gilmore College needs families and friends in the community willing to look after International Students. The family provides a room, furniture, home-life and meals and is paid to cover the expenses.

International Student make a valuable contribution to the college in working hard and families enjoy making a new friend from overseas. For information, please contact the college.

Image courtesy of [Crazyjoe] / FreeDigitalPhotos.net

Sunbury line- Buses replace trains from Wednesday 8 March - Monday 13 March 2017
The dangerous and congested level crossings at Main and Furlong roads have been removed. Thanks for your patience as we continue to improve the new station precincts.

SINGLE PARENTS ACTIVE KIDS PROUDLY PRESENTS:
FREE FAMILY FUN DAY
LOGAN RESERVE IN ALTONA
SUNDAY 26TH OF MARCH
STARTING 1 PM
FREE BBQ, ENTERTAINMENT, ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS:
MEMBERSHIP SPECIALS AND MORE.
EVEN IF YOU CAN’T ATTEND THERE ARE PLENTY MORE OPPORTUNITIES, HERE IS A LINK TO OUR VERY ACTIVE WEBSITE http://www.singleparentsactivekids.org/
LIKE MINDED SINGLE PARENTS TO CHAT WITH, ACTIVE KIDS WANTING TO PLAY WITH YOUR ACTIVE KIDS, WIN WIN!
"SINGLE DOES NOT MEAN ALONE"
PLEASE RSVP TO info@singleparentsactivekids.org or call Moush on 0430 504 119.
KIDS CLASSES
Free Trial Lesson!
Smaller courts, lighter racquets and low-compression balls that don’t bounce too high make learning tennis fun and easy for primary school-aged children. This means that kids are able to start rallying and having fun right from their first lesson!
Cost: $9.00 a session

CARDIO TENNIS
Free Trial Lesson!
- High energy workout and burn 300 to 1000 calories
- Drill-based and play-based activities
- Lose weight, get fit and have fun
- Participants wear heart monitors, exercise to music and use low compression balls and a variety of equipment such as agility ladders
Cost: $12.50 a session.