MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Students, Parents and Staff

NAPLAN

Our Years 7 and 9 students (together with fellow students in government and non-government schools across the whole of Australia) have been busy completing their Literacy and Numeracy tests within the Annual NAPLAN program. These tests were originally developed to assist classroom teachers to have comparative information about the progress of each of their students in literacy and numeracy. It provides a ‘snapshot’ of how the students performed on that particular day relative to other students in the same year level. This complements (rather than replaces) the Fairhills assessments that teachers carry out regularly throughout the year. The benefits include:

1. Teachers can compare nationally benchmarked assessments (NAPLAN) with their own judgements about student progress and, follow-up on any apparent discrepancies.
2. Each student gets a NAPLAN report card as an objective measure of how they are progressing which keeps parents informed.
3. Teachers get a breakdown, question by question, of how their class has performed. This helps teachers to work out which teaching aspects need more time devoted to them in class.
4. The school as a whole can analyse the data and work out specific ways to further refine our teaching and learning methods.
5. The Education Department can evaluate how well Victorian students are performing compared with other states and countries. This information can be used to work out new Department initiatives and funding priorities.

Unfortunately, the NAPLAN data is now also being provided for parents to compare schools through the ‘My School’ website which was not the original intention. This is controversial! Parents who choose their secondary school mainly on the NAPLAN data are not taking into account a much wider range of information about schools and, consequently, run the risk of selecting a school which only partially meets their student’s individual needs.

I would like to thank Kath Middleton, our NAPLAN Co-ordinator and the teacher supervisors for running the process so smoothly. Thank you also, to the many students who took the tests seriously and tried to do their best. Unfortunately, a small number don’t try and waste this opportunity to check how they are individually progressing and, sadly, cause the school to have an inaccurate lower overall score to be placed on ‘My School’.

However, at Fairhills, we encourage all students to try their best in everything they do so, hopefully, this non-trier group is quite small.

Harvey Wood
Principal
STUDENTS’ CARS
As our Year 12 students gradually come ‘of age’ many of them are obtaining driving licences. It is most important that students follow the following procedure once they have their licence:
Ensure the car registration and the licence number is recorded with the school
Park cars in designated areas
Carry a passenger only with the signed permission of the driver’s parents, and ensure the passenger carries a pass issued by the school.
Observe the speed restrictions that apply within the school boundaries and drive in a safe manner.
Ensure there is no interference with the smooth running of any school programs.
Should it come to our attention that any of the above responsibilities have not been observed, parents will be contacted and the privilege of driving a car onto the property will be withdrawn.

RMIT EXPERIENCE DAYS
RMIT University is proud to offer a number of free Experience Days throughout the Term 2 school holidays. The events are designed to encourage students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to engage in hands-on workshops, explore life on campus and go behind the scenes while experiencing different aspects of their chosen fields. To register and learn more visit: www.rmit.edu.au/experience days.
- Accounting and Finance Day – July 1 – City campus – Years 10, 11 and 12
- Fashion and Textiles Day – July 1 – City campus Years 10, 11 and 12
- Community Justice Day – July 2 – City campus – Years 10, 11 and 12
- Electrical and Computer Engineering Day – July 2 – City Campus – Years 10, 11 and 12
- Media Day – July 2 – City Campus – Years 10, 11 and 12
- Aerospace, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Day – July 3 – Bundoora Campus – Year 11 and 12
- Health and Medical Sciences Day – July 3 – Bundoora Campus – Years 10, 11 and 12
- Advertising, Marketing and Public Relations Day – July 4 – City Campus – Years 10, 11, 12
- Environment Day – July 4 – City Campus – Years 10, 11 and 12
- Art and Design Day – July 5 – City Campus – July 5 – Year 10, 11 and 12
- Computing, Animation and IT Day – July 5 – City Campus –Years 10, 11 and 12

LABORATORY VISITS
Medical Laboratory Visits
Monday July 8 – Friday July 12. Year 10, 11 and 12. Refer to registration page for full list of participating hospitals.
Nuclear Medicine Laboratory Visits
Thursday September 26 and Friday September 27. Year 11 and 12 students. St Vincents Hospital or The Austin Hospital


Knox Youth Services – “Bounce Resilience Parent Information” Session. Monday May 27 7.00 – 8.30 pm Knox Civic Centre, 511 Burwood Highway, Wantirna South. FREE SESSION
Presenter – Hugh van Cuylenburg - has been working in education for over 10 years. The highlight of his teaching career, however, was the year he spent in the far north of India volunteering and living at an underprivileged school in the Himalayas. It was here that he discovered resilience in its purest form. Inspired by this experience (and subsequent trips to Bangladesh and Sri Lanka) Hugh returned to Melbourne and commenced working on his own programs for schools. ‘The Resilience Project’ was born. Hugh’s presentations emphasise the value of gratitude, empathy, kindness, positivity, optimism and mindfulness. It will also provide parents with practical ideas of how to raise happy and resilient children.
Years seven and eight students from all Secondary Schools in Knox have been invited to participate in a resilience forum on Monday 3rd June, also facilitated by Hugh.
To register, contact Sarah Waters – 9298 8311 or sarah.waters@knox.vic.gov.au

$8 Bowling
10am to 4pm
Sunday
26th May
Local Service   Registered BAS Agent
Member of the Institute of Certified Bookkeepers
Over 12 years experience   Phone 0419 161595

Work as a Polling Official   The AEC is looking for people from your community to work at the next federal election. Full training is provided and you can even do it at home in your own time. To register, visit www.aec.gov.au or call on 13 23 26.

Need some firsthand medical experience? Whether you are a graduate, mid-degree or simply considering a career in the medical field, you will be overseen by a team of doctors who will help you gain valuable experience within the industry. India, Namibia, Ghana, Colombia. REAL GAP

Real Internships Abroad – Enrol into a Real Gap CV boosting international internship and you will have the best of both worlds. Learn more about LONDON’S fashion scene or practise law in Argentina, China, Belize, South Africa, India, Colombia, Ghana. REAL GAP – Call 1300 844 270 – info@realgap.com.au realgap.com.au

Visual Arts and Graphic Design Students,
La Trobe University Bendigo is holding an intensive, but enjoyable 2 day (Visual Arts) / 3 day (Graphic Design) folio preparation program for year 11 and 12 students wishing to enter university. On completion you will have the skills required to build an impressive professional portfolio, and be able to approach a university pre-selection interview with confidence. Packed with course specific interview tips and other valuable information you will maximise your chances of success. Meals and supervised accommodation included. For further information and registration forms please email Jennifer – visualarts@latrobe.edu.au

Single Parents Active Kids brings you a FREE Single Parent Family Fun Day!
Sunday 23rd June, 2013 : 1pm – 5pm Wombat Bend Park, Finns Reserve, Duncan Street, Lower Templestowe Melways reference 33 B4
- Free BBQ and drinks  - Free kids activities and games  - Free face painting
- Membership specials  - and SO much more!
ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL! Please RSVP to Moush on ☎ 0430 504 119
✉ info@singleparentsactivekids.org   www.singleparentsactivekids.org

HELP NEEDED
The School’s Wellbeing area is looking for a volunteer to collect sandwiches from Tasty Trucks in Ferntree Gully and deliver them to the school each Monday afternoon, any time after 2 pm. If this is something you could help with, please contact Stewart MacCartney at school. 9728 5022 or 0425 727 415
CAREERS INFORMATION
Careers information can be found on the school Website. Please go onto the school website and click on the link.
www.fairhills.vic.edu.au

STUDENT ABSENCES – ABSENCE HOTLINE 9758 5060
Parents are requested to ring the school on the schools Absence Hotline if your child will be absent or late due to illness or for any other reason. Please leave a message outlining the reason for the absence and if known, the length of time your child will be away.

SAVE THE DATE
The annual Chaplaincy trivia night, to raise funds to support Stewart MacCartney in his work at Fairhills High School, will be held on Friday August 30th. Please put the date in your diary and plan to be there with a table full of friends for a great night of fun.
If anyone can help with donations towards our raffle or silent auctions for the night, then please take these gifts to the school office. Maybe you have been given a gift that is not to your taste, please consider re-gifting it for the raffle. These donations must be new please.
The Chaplaincy Committee is always interested in hearing from anyone in the school community who would like to help us in our fundraising efforts, either by joining the committee or by becoming a donor. Please don’t hesitate to contact me on 9762 2632.
I am looking forward to seeing many of you on August 30th.
Chris Seymour

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YOUNG ADULT WRITERS’ GROUP
- For High School students form Years 7 to 12. Every second Monday at 5.15 to 6.00 pm - Belgrave Library. We discuss literature and writing, share our own work and support each other, enter competitions and often have guest speakers come along. Contact Damien on 0423 076 100

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