MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPALS

PRESENTATION BALL
The annual Presentation Ball was held on Saturday 27th April at The Grand in Wantirna South. Thirty-nine couples from the Senior School were presented to Ms Heidi Victoria, Member for Bayswater. The school community had a wonderful night as we watched the presentations and enjoyed the band. Our thanks goes to Suzie Beasley for the management and organization of the event, Mrs Anita Chipman for assisting with the organization, Mrs Cathy Morrow and the parents’ committee for supporting this worthy event. Funds raised go to support this year’s School Musical.

INTERSCHOOL DANCE CONTESTS
This year’s Interschool Dance Contests are well underway with a large number of students from neighbouring schools participating in the competitions. The students choreograph their performances and work on their arrangements in the hope of achieving success in their age bracket. Students participating are from Grade 5 through to Year 12. Thanks to Mrs Anita Chipman, our parents, students and staff who have supported the contests. The contests continue throughout May and June.

STAFF DRIVEWAY
There are still a number of students who continue to use the staff driveway when walking onto the property. Students are required to enter the school via the student footpaths. Some parents are also using this driveway to drop off their children before and after school. The staff driveway is only to be used by staff.

NAPLAN TESTS – See final page for complete information.

STUDENTS’ CARS
As our Year 12 students gradually come ‘of age’ many of them are obtaining driving licenses. It is most important that students follow the following procedure once they have their license:

1. Ensure the car registration and the license number is recorded with the school
2. Park cars in designated areas.
3. Carry a passenger only with the signed permission of the driver’s parents, and ensure the passenger carries a pass issued by the school.
4. Observe the speed restrictions that apply within the school boundaries and drive in a safe manner.
5. 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have not been observed, parents will be contacted and the privilege of driving a car onto the property will be withdrawn.

OPEN NIGHT
The school held its OPEN NIGHT on THURSDAY 2nd MAY from 6.00 – 8.30 pm. A large number of prospective parents and their children attended. The evening began with a sausage sizzle, continued with tours around the school and ended with presentations from key speakers including a number of our junior and senior students. Parents had the opportunity to meet our staff, talk to students and watch students demonstrate in many of the practical subjects. Any parents who were unable to attend are welcome to contact the school and make an appointment with our Transition Co-Ordinator, Ms La Leggia and arrange a tour of the school. Tours are held on Thursdays from 9.00 to 10.00 am.

My thanks to the many staff who assisted on the night and the large number of students, including our Student Leaders, who volunteered their services. Your efforts were very much appreciated.

K. Dean
Associate Principal
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

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

PARTICIPANTS REQUIRED ------ FREE study for overweight young people looking for help
Murdoch Children’s Research Institute at The Royal Children’s Hospital is running a randomised clinical trial of an online weight management program for overweight adolescents. Participation involves completing height, weight, blood pressure and waist circumference measurements and an online questionnaire at baseline, 3, 6 and 12 months. Parents are also invited to participate. Every 3 months there will be a draw for a $100 gift voucher for those participants who have kept their appointments. The results will demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of using the personalised, targeted Staying Fit program for addressing weight-related behaviours during adolescence. Recruitment has commenced and we are looking for 550 overweight young people aged 12-17 living in metropolitan Melbourne.
Enquiries – Karly Cini 9345 6954 staying fit@mcri.edu.au. www.rch.org.au/’sah/stayingfit

TSFX- Unit 3 Revision and extension lectures – FREE LECTURES FOR Year 11 and 12 students. Fund raising benefits Beyond Blue and the Fred Hollows Foundation. “Mastering the Exams” – May 19 and June 1.
Further details from FAIRHILLS HIGH SCHOOL General office.

BRING CULTURAL EXCHANGE INTO YOUR HOME!
STS Student Exchange is seeking Aussie families who are busy, friendly, interest in other cultures and willing to welcome an STS exchange student into their family. Aussie families come from all walks of life and all cultural backgrounds, that is, what makes up our country. Our volunteer host families provide room and board and treat their host son or daughter as a member of their own family. Exchange students have their own spending money and medical insurance. While your exchange student is learning about Australian culture, your family members will learn about theirs. What a great way for your children to learn about another country! Contact: 1800 263 964, Email: stsf@people.net.au, Website: sts-exchange.
Dear Parent/Carer

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2013 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 14 May, Wednesday 15 May and Thursday 16 May 2013. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students that require them.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for support due to disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with Mrs Emmerson prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child’s particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child’s participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child’s progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au

Yours sincerely

Kathryn Middleton
Director of Curriculum

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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