Important Dates

- 18 December - Last Day of Term
- 27 January - General Office Open
- 28 January - Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
- 29 January - First Day of Classes

Inside this issue:

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Principal's Report:
- A Crazy Week of Activities
- Class & Homegroup Teachers 2016
- Farewell to Staff

Assistant Principals' Reports:
- Appreciation for Primary Years
- Best Wishes for the New Year

Term Dates 2016

Term 1 - 27 January - 24 March
Term 2 - 11 April - 24 June
Term 3 - 11 July - 16 September
Term 4 - 3 October - 20 December

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

The past week has been a busy one, with students given the opportunity to partake in a variety of activities to help celebrate the end of the 2015 school year. Great fun was had by all!
Greetings,

I am writing this on the last day of school for 2015. It’s been a hectic week of school activities and events as we wind up Term Four and the school year.

On Tuesday evening we celebrated the graduation of our Year 6 students in a simple and elegant ceremony, preceded by dinner together in our Middle Years building. Congratulations to David Husk and his team for a successful event and thank you to our Year 5 students and some parents who provided assistance during the evening.

On Wednesday evening we enjoyed a wonderful Junior School Christmas Concert, including performances by our Kinder kids. Many parents, families and friends attended to see our children in action as they performed a repertoire of Christmas songs to delight and entertain. Thanks to Michael Mietzcke, Trish Trounson and our teachers in creating a memorable evening for all to enjoy.

Our Senior School Awards were conducted on Thursday evening. It was an ideal opportunity to celebrate the academic, sporting and personal achievements of students from Year 7 to Year 12. Congratulations to all students who received an award. You’ll find a list of these students and their achievements elsewhere in our newsletter. Thanks to John Gove who prepared and compered the evening and all staff who worked behind the scenes, literally and figuratively, to ensure the evening was a success.

The following table indicate the classroom teachers and home group teachers for next year. In some instances the teacher is to be confirmed (TBC) as teachers have left or changed positions within the school, for e.g. David Husk, who was to be a Year 3/4 teacher, has recently been appointed to the position of Student Wellbeing Coordinator for our College. We wish Michael Mietzcke, Cate-Linne Fraser, Brooke Simpson, Jenny Royle, Claudia Keast and Pam Porter all the best as they leave us at the end of 2015. Best wishes also to our integration aides, Jenny Onions and Harry Scott. A full list of all staff, including our Early Learning Centre educators, will be published early next year.

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<th>2016 Senior Years Home Group Teachers</th>
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<tr>
<td>10A Harjinder Kaur</td>
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<th>2016 Middle Years Classroom Teachers</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/6A Jon Dixon</td>
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<th>2016 Year 7 Home Group Teachers</th>
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A reminder that our College magazine, FUSION, is available for purchase at the office. It contains many wonderful photos and memories of events and activities throughout 2015. I wish you and your family all the best for a safe and relaxing festive season and we look forward to your return in 2016. Best wishes to those students and families who are leaving us, may the future for you and your children be all that you hope it to be.

Regards,  
David Rose - Principal
Assistant Principals’ Reports

Well where did all that time go?! I cannot believe we are at our final newsletter of the year already! But I must say, I am looking forward to the holiday break and the festive season.

I would like to say a quick thank you to everyone who has supported me in my first year in the AP chair. Coming from a secondary background I have thoroughly loved watching the little ones develop this year, especially in the Prep and kinder years. They grow so much in one year! And gee are they cute at singing Christmas carols! I have enjoyed meeting many new parents from our community for both formal and informal chats. I have a new appreciation for what the junior staff do and know and appreciate the hard work put in by our senior staff. I was sad at our Awards Evening last night to say farewell to some of our year 12 students who I have seen mature into lovely young adults across the years. I wish them the very best of luck in their future endeavours as they enter the big wide world. I was also sad to see some great Year 6 students leaving us for other schools and hope the transition is smooth for them.

I wish you all a lovely Christmas celebration with your families and friends and a restful holiday break. I hope Santa Claus is good to you all! See you in 2016.

Rachel Gardiner
Assistant Principal - Curriculum

Parents’ Club Report

2015 has been a massive year for our school community and in turn for our Parents Club.

We would like to thank you for supporting the following fundraising activities:

The Easter Raffle, the Cadbury Chocolate Drive, the Mother’s Day Stall, the Entertainment Book Drive, the Nissan Raffle, the Father’s Day stall, the Footy BBQ Day, the K - 7 Disco, the Christmas Raffle & the Christmas Concert.

We are so very grateful to everyone that supported these events including all the wonderful families & businesses that donated items throughout the year – thank you!

We are also incredibly grateful to the students from years 8 to 12, who happily volunteered to work at events focused on years Prep to 7. Your positive attitude and willingness to get involved was wonderful to see.

At the time of printing, we were yet to finalise the total amount raised this year, however we have had some incredible successes that have allowed us to continue to support the programs that are run within the school for our students. In addition, we were able to purchase new take home readers for the students of the Early Years (P to 4) to enjoy. These readers have been purchased, catalogued, stamped and placed in the classrooms - a great success! A set of table clothes for formal events held at the school has also been purchased.

In addition to these events, Parents Club were able to assist with the following school activities held throughout the year:

The Prep to Year 4 Mother’s Day afternoon tea, the World Teachers Day morning tea, the Prep Transition morning tea, the VCE Art Exhibition catering, the Year 6 Graduation celebrations, the School Working Bee & School Banking.

It’s events like these that continue to build our sense of community – thank you!

We would like to thank the members of Parents Club for all their hard work this year, together we have achieved some really great things. We value the friendships we have formed working hand in hand with you and look forward to what next year might bring.

Planning has already begun for 2016, and we can confirm that the year will kick off with a welcome BBQ early in the new school year.

On behalf of Parents Club we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. May your festive season be filled with laughter & happiness.

Brooke Cross
Assistant Principal - Curriculum
As part of our end of year activities program, secondary students were given the opportunity to attend a ‘Tree Surfing’ excursion. All those in attendance had an absolute blast!

Art Request

Cleaning out your cupboards over the holidays?
The Art department are seeking any old crockery (particularly anything colourful or patterned) that you may be wishing to donate to the College.

This old crockery will eventually be used towards mosaic artworks next year.
**Vaccinations**

Has your child received the recommended secondary school vaccinations? Knox City Council's immunisation team has visited the school three times this year to administer scheduled vaccines.

The administered vaccines were as follows:

**Year 7:**
- Human papillomavirus (Gardasil)
- Chickenpox (Varivax)
- Diptheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough (Boostrix)

**Year 8 - 10:**
- Diptheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough (Boostrix)

As of 2016, Boostrix will no longer be free for Year 8 - 10 students. If your child has missed out on their scheduled vaccines, please bring them to a Council run public immunisation session, or your GP by 31 December, 2015.

If you wanted to have your child immunised but are unsure if your child received these vaccines, please contact Council's immunisation team on 9298 8165.

**Uniform for Sale**

The College currently has a second hand, although completely brand new (as it was never worn) Boronia K-12 College blazer for sale.

The details are as follows:

**Size:** 14  
**Cost:** $70.00 (Cash only)

We also currently have two shirts available:

**Size:** 16  
**Cost:** $10.00 (Cash only)

Simply pop into the General Office for any queries.

**NO DOGS**

ON SCHOOL GROUNDS  
EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS, OR WITH PRIOR CONCENT FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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**Sun Smart Season**

With the Summer months upon us it’s time to review what it takes to be ‘sun smart’. A combination of sun protection measures are used whenever the UV levels reach three and above. UV levels and sun protection times are monitored each day to help with the implementation of this policy.

If you can, please check the sun protection times each day so you can be sure you are using sun protection when you need to be. The sun protection times are available as a free app, from sunsmart.com.au and the Bureau of Meteorology website.

During the sun protection times please remember to:

1. Slip on sun protective clothing  
2. Slop on SPF 30 or higher sunscreen  
3. Slap on a wide brimmed hat  
4. Seek shade  
5. Slide on some wrap-around sunglasses

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**Student Banking**

Do you still have left over student banking tokens? That’s okay, because they carry over to next year!

Reward orders received from Friday 3 December onwards will be held and released for mailing to schools from Wednesday 27 January. This will ensure that no orders “go missing” when schools are closed over the Christmas period.

Thank you for supporting this wonderful program.

*The Banking Team*
Students have been creating skateboard decks reflecting their identity as a teenager this semester. They have applied printmaking and spray painting techniques to produce amazing artworks! Congratulations to all Year 8 and 9 Street Art students for their personalised and diverse work this semester.
Late Arrivals

All students are to sign in at the office in the event of arriving at school late. We ask that younger students are signed in by their parent or guardian.

Absences

In the event of whole day absence, families are encouraged to prior notify the College of their child’s absence by leaving a message on the student absence line or via Tiqbiz (the college app). This must be completed each day your child is absent, or covering the duration of your child's absence. Please provide written notes and or medical certificates when applicable.

Early Departure

We ask that parents and guardians make appointments wherever possible outside of school hours, weekends, and school holidays. If your child must be collected early, please provide a written note which is to be given to your child's teacher. The teacher will release your child from their class at the specified time to meet you at the General Office. All students leaving the college must be signed out at the General Office.

If you wish to know more about the Tiqbiz communication app, available on all devices, please contact the college.

Thank you for your support.

Pictured below:

Hard working Marcus with a whole bucket of litter he collected on the day of our College Working Bee. Well done Marcus!

Mathletics, Spellodrome & IntoScience

Don't forget to log on and join in the fun of Mathletics, Spellodrome and IntoScience.

Your accounts on each of these websites are available to access at any point throughout the year. Please encourage your child to log in and get involved.

Your child's login details were distributed earlier in the year by their classroom teacher.

Boronia K-12 College

Buy, Swap, Sell

Following a recent School Council meeting, it was discussed to again have the ability to offer access to a second hand uniform shop for the school.

To begin, we have decided to offer this service through a Facebook page.

Simply search for the page on Facebook. The page is called: Boronia K-12 College - Uniform & Books - Buy, Swap, Donate and Sell

Parents Club

With Christmas fast approaching, alongside the annual Christmas Concert, the Parents Club are seeking your assistance. We are currently seeking a variety of donations which will be used towards the annual Christmas Concert Raffle.

We appreciate any donation, big or small (but please ensure the donated items are not second hand). Chocolates, toys, Christmas themed goodies, vouchers, or even something you as a parent or guardian might enjoy!

Please leave donations at the General Office by Tuesday 2 December, 2015. The Parents’ Club will collect the donations and create hampers which will join the raffle, all proceeds of which go directly back to the College.

The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.
Students have been working on inspired Pop Art artworks using printmaking techniques to represent today's popular music, brands, fashion, sport and more. Well done to all Year 7 art students!
As part of their Narrative writing topic, the Year 7 students created a Christmas storybook for a buddy in Grade 2. Firstly, the Year 7s wrote a letter to their buddy, asking them a variety of questions about their likes and interests. The Grade 2s then wrote their own letters and met with their Year 7 buddy to read the letter to them.

Over the following three weeks, the Year 7s carefully and creatively planned stories that were tailored to suit their own buddy’s interests. During this time, the Grade 2s patiently waited excitedly.

On Thursday 17 December, all of the students met up and had a Storytime session. The Year 7s read the personalised Christmas stories to their Grade 2 buddies. All of the students had an amazing time, and the Grade 2s were able to take home their much cherished Christmas stories!

“It was nice to see my buddy Jordan so excited to receive something that we worked so hard on.” – Matt B

“‘It was nice being able to connect with my childish and creative side.” – Jade E

“It was fun getting really creative and getting ideas off the Grade 2s so we could make the stories personal.” – Hayley

“It was really nice getting to read my story to Ella, because I could see that she enjoyed the story. I could see how excited she was to get the book.” – Lydia G
I’ve always been amazed how many things I find in my Kindergarten Teaching pockets at the end of the day. They might be special treasures gifted to me from children, precious and forgotten toys and more often than not at least 1/2 cup of sand. At the beginning of this term I decided to empty my pockets at the end of each day in a waste paper basket - it’s already 3/4 full!

As we approach the end of the school year, gear up for Christmas and ready ourselves to get away on family holidays it is important to ensure we finish well. Often we can get so caught up in the anticipation of having a break, the stress of buying presents, and anxiety of getting tasks completed before the end of the year that we forget about the most important things in life. “What are the most important things in life?” you might ask. Let me suggest a few:

Family and Friends – connect with, care for and encourage your family and friends. Whether you are a father, mother, son, daughter or friend look out for those you care and about and who care about you. Tell them what you appreciate about them (sometimes we need a reminder not to just point out each other’s faults!). Ask them how they are going and actually be willing to listen; particularly for those who are doing it tough.

Health - eat well, sleep well, exercise, be part of a supportive community and take a break. No matter your circumstances these things all help towards a more healthier “you”. We live in one of the most resourced, wealthiest and connected countries in the world yet many people are unhealthy, unfit, tired, and lonely. Reflect on what needs to change for you (and your family) and make some choices that will allow you to be healthier in 2016.

Freedom – of speech, association, assembly, religion, and movement. In Australia we are blessed with freedoms that many others in the world do not have. We are not persecuted by the government, in fear of our lives daily and we have access to the basic needs required as humans to live. While some of us may have more or less than others, I encourage us to reflect on the freedoms we have and be thankful for the quality of life we are able to live.

Whilst I have only been the chaplain at Boronia K-12 College for a short time, I have already found myself immersed in the unique, diverse and welcoming culture of the college. It has been a joy to engage with staff, students and parents despite some of the challenging conversations that can arise. As I look towards what 2016 holds for Boronia K-12 College, the staff, the students and myself there are three things that I will be reflecting on over the holidays and into next year. These are hope, faith and love.

Firstly, the hope that 2016 can be a fresh start, a clean slate and new opportunities for some people. For some, 2015 has been a really tough year with numerous challenges and setbacks. Challenges ranging from relational conflict, financial struggles, health issues, grief and loss just to name a few. My desire is that as life continues to move on you might discover fresh hope for you and your family. It is important that amongst the hurt and pain that we step back, gain perspective and be thankful for what we do have. As some of you make New Year’s resolutions, have the determination to approach 2016 with an attitude to take ownership of what you can control and the resilience and courage to navigate what you cannot.

Secondly, the faith to believe in yourself, in others and the willingness to devote yourself to live in a way which holds all that you value at the centre of your life. Sometimes we have little faith in ourselves, that we will never achieve our dreams, or believe we have great worth and
value. Other times we struggle to forgive, to reach out to those that have hurt us or to even forgive ourselves. Sometimes we are able to articulate our values to others but when it comes to living those values out in a genuine way we fall short. My hope is that over this season you can reflect on your values and then have faith that you can be someone who authentically lives out those values more and more each day.

Finally, the kind of love that is generous, that listens, that cares. The love to look after ourselves and each other despite the busy-ness of life. Often we find ourselves consumed by our struggles, commitments and responsibilities that we forget how to love. Love is essential to living a healthy life and helping others to do the same. How can you love yourself and others better in 2016? What we say or do each day to remind someone (or ourselves) that they are loved, valued, and accepted? As we approach Christmas and write cards, give gifts and wish others well; remember that this can be replicated in everyday life to express our love for others.

So I wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable Christmas holidays and Happy New Year. I look forward to what 2016 has in store and hope you can join me in celebrating all that we can be thankful for.

Anthony Smith
Chaplain

As a farewell to Mr Mietzcke Lucinda E and Stephanie C (from Grade 2) made a speech and recited a special poem at the last P-4 assembly of the year. The poem was signed by the members of choir and framed as a keepsake for Mr Mietzcke to treasure.

Mr Mietzcke he's got flair
Music teacher extraordinaire!
Rhythms, beats, songs he did teach
Many children's hearts he reached
We loved the productions put together with care
We loved Bright Lights and the talent shared
We loved the choirs, beautiful voices in the air
But most of all, we loved the man in the chair

Thank you Mr Mietzcke for all you have done
The hard work, dedication, creativeness and fun
We wish you the best at your new school next year
We'll miss your piano as we wave and shed a tear

So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, adieu
Good bye, Good bye, we'll always remember you
2015 Awards Recipients

**Community/Leadership Awards**
- Outstanding Leadership Award: Monique Gunn
- Australian Defence Forces Leadership Awards: Madison Cooney, Hailey Close
- Boronia Rotary Citizenship Award: Jessica Cowling

**Sports Awards**
- Swimming Junior Male: Wade Jackson
- Swimming Junior Female: Georgia Baldwin
- Swimming Senior Male: Jeon Patton
- Swimming Senior Female: Paige Fischer
- Cross Country Junior Male: Cody Forrest
- Cross Country Junior Female: Isla Bradbury
- Cross Country Senior Male: Jared Purcell
- Cross Country Senior Female: Candice Walters
- Athletics Junior Male: Connor Moon
- Athletics Junior Female: Georgia Baldwin
- Athletics Senior Male: Matthew Moorhouse
- Athletics Senior Female: Hailey Close
- Outstanding Sportsperson Award: Georgia Baldwin

**Major Achievement Awards**
- Boronia Rotary Achievement Awards: Liam Bartlett, Jared Charles, Montana Greaves, Madison Cooney
- Hospitality Award: Shae Preston
- Sarah Loughton Literary Award: Jordan Zinnack
- Page Scholarship: Matthew Moorhouse
- Sir George Knox Memorial Scholarship: Jessica Briant
- Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program: Helen Xue

**Years 8 and 9 Achievement Awards**
- Year 8A: Breanna Crothers, Joshua O'Brien
- Year 8B: Breanna White, Joshua Fish
- Year 8C: Varshith Martha, Sarah Emery
- Year 8D: Jessica Briant, Sabina Blewer
- Year 9A: Monique Gunn, Derek Tat
- Year 9B: Leteesha O'Regan, Riley Purcell

**Foundation VCAL Achievement Awards**
- Literacy Skills: Emilee Egan
- Numeracy Skills: Montana Greaves
2015 Awards Recipients Continued

Personal Development Skills          Alicia Aulesbrook
Work Related Skills                  Montana Greaves

**Units 1 and 2 VCE Achievement Awards**

English                              Helen Xue
Foundation VCE Mathematics           Monique McCallum
General Mathematics                  Emilee Egan
Maths Methods                        Helen Xue
Studio Arts                          Declan Mort, Helen Xue
Biology                              Madison Cooney
History                              Keirah Hall
Food and Technology                  Jazmin Hill
Physical Education                   Keirah Hall
Music                                Tim Krins
English Literature                   Keirah Hall

**Intermediate VCAL Achievement Awards**

Literacy Skills                      Ben Parsons
Numeracy Skills                      Daniel Charles
Personal Development Skills          Daniel Charles
Work Related Skills                  Daniel Charles

**Units 3 and 4 VCE Achievement Awards**

English                              Jade Adams
Maths Methods                        Madelyn Geoghegan
Further Mathematics                 Anna Finch
Psychology                           Jade Adams
Studio Arts                          Leroy Hau
Biology                              Madelyn Geoghegan
Chemistry                            Madelyn Geoghegan
Physical Education                   Leroy Hau
Physics                              Madelyn Geoghegan
Health and Human Development         Taylor Close, Codie Orme, Matt Librio

**Senior VCAL Achievement Awards**

Literacy Skills                      Hailey Close
Numeracy Skills                      Jessica Cowling
Personal Development Skills          Hailey Close
Work Related Skills                  Hailey Close
**VET Achievement Awards**

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Printing and Graphic Arts</td>
<td>Jade Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory Skills</td>
<td>Helen Xue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horticulture</td>
<td>Daniel Charles</td>
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<td>Music</td>
<td>Nastassja White</td>
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<td>Sport and Recreation</td>
<td>Jared Purcell</td>
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**Learning Area Excellence Awards**

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<td>English</td>
<td>Jade Adams</td>
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<td>Health</td>
<td>Codie Orme</td>
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<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Jared Purcell</td>
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<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Keirah Hall</td>
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<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Anna Finch</td>
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<td>Science</td>
<td>Madelyn Geoghegan</td>
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<td>Study of Technology</td>
<td>Jazmin Hill</td>
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<td>Creative Arts</td>
<td>Leroy Hau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performing Arts - Music</td>
<td>Lani Wolframmm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performing Arts - Dance</td>
<td>Jessica Beard</td>
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<td>Caltex All Rounder</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Runner Up VCAL Student of the Year</td>
<td>Jessica Cowling</td>
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<td>2015 VCAL Student of the Year</td>
<td>Hailey Close</td>
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<td>2015 Runner Up VCE Dux</td>
<td>Jade Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 VCE Dux</td>
<td>Madelyn Geoghegan</td>
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Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and wishing you a fantastic break!

BORONIA K-12 COLLEGE