28 April - College Cross Country
8 May - Year 5/6 Winter Sport Round Robin
12 May - NAPLAN
13 May - NAPLAN
14 May - NAPLAN
20 May - Prep Excursion to Como House
28 May - Pupil Free Day

Term Dates 2015

Term 1 - 28 January to 27 March
Term 2 - 13 April to 26 June
Term 3 - 13 July to 18 September
Term 4 - 5 October to 18 December

NO DOGS
ON SCHOOL GROUNDS
EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY

On Friday 24 April the College conducted our ANZAC Day Ceremony, complete with canon fire. The event was a moving commemorative event. Keep an eye on our future newsletters for further pictures.
Greetings,

I encourage you to visit the College next week to view the ‘Fields of Poppies’ our students have created for our Anzac Commemorative Ceremony. Through the combined efforts of our Art teachers, Trish Trounson and Olivia Karpathiou, every student had the opportunity to contribute a poppy to the art work. This art work is on display in the office foyer. Our student leaders and singers performed wonderfully in their speeches, readings, songs and presentation to the whole College community during the ceremony.

We welcomed Ben Goodes as ELC Director to our community this term. It is wonderful to see the positive impact his appointment has had on staff and students alike. We also welcomed Dan Camille, replacing Gavin Pohlen for Term 2. Congratulations to Gavin and his family on the recent birth of Lindon, their healthy baby boy.

We have been fortunate to employ Claudia Keast, (teaching German in Anne Wathen’s absence), Sally Prickett, filling in while Sharon Mullins recuperates and Judith McLaren, our new instrumental guitar teacher. Welcome back to Pam Porter after some time spent travelling.

We had some significant landscaping works completed over the holidays and the gardens, particularly at the Albert Avenue end, are looking beautiful. It should be sensational in spring! We have received some further funds for landscaping which we intend to use in ongoing maintenance of the school oval, and the beautification of our gardens at the Rangeview Road end of the College and in the Early Learning Centre. We are about to install more interactive whiteboards throughout the College to support the teaching and learning.

Last term ended with our senior students Presentation Ball at The Grande in Cathies Lane. This was my first official Ball as Principal and it was a wonderful evening. Our students looked sensational, dressed in all their finery as they demonstrated their prowess on the dance floor after a number of practice sessions.

I took two Prep students and our three Year 6 leaders to Bayswater West PS for a Knox Leader photo for an Education Week supplement. All Knox Government Primary Schools were included; look out for it in the Knox Leader during Education Week. There is a photo of our students in this newsletter.

Some of our senior students have been involved in the Knox City Council ‘Wall to Wall’ project. This week they have been completing a mural on the external wall of Alchester Village IGA. It looks fantastic! See elsewhere in this newsletter for a photo of their artistic efforts. I encourage you to have a look next time you pass that way.

David Rose

College Principal
On Thursday evening, we held Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences for all subjects across Years 7 – 12. Conferences for Prep – Year 6 will occur on the Thursday of Week 10. After much discussion, it has been established that these dates are the preferred time of the year to best support students learning in these age groups. Thankyou to all parents and students who attended on Thursday. It is vital that we work together as a team to support our students’ education.

In Week 3 we will be conducting our Attitudes to School survey with all students from Years 5 – 12. This survey provides our college with valuable data on students’ views of their wellbeing, teaching and learning, and school in general, to support our school improvement.

NAPLAN tests (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) will be conducted Week 5 this term (Tuesday 12 May – Thursday 14 May). We will administer NAPLAN tests across Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9 students. These tests occur on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings of that week.

If you have any concerns about your child participating or undertaking in NAPLAN tests, please contact Ms Rachel Gardiner (Assistant Principal – Curriculum) as soon as possible to discuss your concerns so suitable arrangements can be made.

In Week 7 there will be a student free day on Thursday 28 May for all our staff to work on assessment and reporting for the mid-year reports.

In addition, we will be introducing a number of wellbeing programs this term targeted at the needs of our students as identified in the resilience survey completed last term.

Rachel Gardiner & Brooke Cross
Assistant Principals

Easter came and went very quickly. With a visit from the Easter Bunny in the Early Learning Centre sending us on an Easter Egg hunt where we had to follow the clues and we found a basket of eggs at the end. Now with Term 2 upon us we will be talking about and observing the changes in autumn, looking at shapes and colours and of course spoiling our mums for Mother’s Day.

FUSION 2014
College Magazine
$20 each (limited number of copies left)
80 pages in full colour. Includes many activities from 2014 - ELC to Year 12
Sacrifice

In this centenary year of the landing at Gallipoli, there are many life experiences shared, including of lives sacrificed. Sacrifice is not a word often used these days. One definition is to give up (something valued) for the sake of other considerations. This is a concept understood by soldiers who fight for their country and the freedom of its citizens. Christians understand this word as they celebrate Easter, and in particular as some give up food or some other activity during Lent. Many also make sacrifices during the 40 Hour Famine, ‘for the sake of others’.

In a world of instant everything, sacrifice is not a popular choice. It seems to me that in our desire to have everything now, there are important people and priorities that suffer. We know that parents often sacrifice their own plans for the sake of their children. However, in many families there are children who suffer because the adults in their life are very focussed on their own agenda, which might include conflict with an ex-partner, or fierce work ambition, or a heavy emphasis on on-line activities rather than real life.

Here are 3 quotes that might help our focus on the ones in our care:

‘Life affords no greater responsibility, no greater privilege, than the raising of the next generation’

‘The best inheritance a parent can give the children is a few minutes of time each day’

‘No-one who reaches the end of life has ever looked back and said, “Oh I wish I had spent more time at the office instead of with my kids.”’

Let’s move ahead from now on, not sacrificing the development of precious young lives by focusing on other things, but sacrificing those things for these precious young lives.

I love this quote:

‘If I had my child to raise all over again, I’d build self-esteem first, and the house later. I’d finger-paint more, and point the finger less. I would do less correcting and more connecting. I’d take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes. I’d take more hikes and fly more kites. I’d stop playing serious, and seriously play. I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars. I’d do more hugging and less tugging’ – Diane Loomans

Alan Silverwood
Chaplain
silverwood.alan.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Pastoral care for our community, with issues of emotional, financial, spiritual, physical nature.

The Chaplaincy program is funded through the Federal Government & Community support. This is a voluntary program in our school community.

Middle Years Personal Growth Award

The Boronia K-12 College Mathletics program is up and running. Visit the link below and sign in to get started!

www.mathletics.com.au

It is available at any point over the school holidays and 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.

Mathletics

The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.
Last Thursday music staff, including myself and our vocal teacher Rebecca Russell, took 18 of our music students to Federation Square by train to participate in a workshop with the African Children’s Choir, now touring from Uganda.

We took students ranging from Grade 6 to Year 10, and I can happily say that our kids were simply excellent! Particularly considering we had such a mixed age group. In fact, there are many advantages in taking mixed groups on an excursion like this, as it helps the younger students feel included plus provides the older kids opportunities to feel a sense of responsibility.

The workshop included performances by percussion, singing and dancing students from all regions of Uganda, aged between 8-14. The workshop encouraged interaction between the school students in the audience and performing members of the choir. We learnt that by touring the world with the African Children’s Choir organization, these Ugandan children are each sponsored and provided with ongoing education at the organization’s schools in Uganda, including secondary education. Receiving quality education is a rare opportunity for these young people, many of whom face very limited schooling in their home villages. An interesting message for our students, I think!

The choir performed traditional dances and songs, using percussion made from recycled materials, drums made from animal hide and snake skin, and other traditional instruments. They also showed us some of their traditional costumes and told us about life and customs in Uganda.

The performances were utterly captivating and our students were very keen to get up and perform with the group. I was very proud of the way our students expressed themselves when asking questions, and their willingness to participate. Students were invited to play drums, and were helped by individual members of the choir who sat within different areas of the audience. All audience members were asked to dance and join in. All our students joined in without hesitation. I have attached some photos of the event. I could have taken more, but I was too busy dancing myself!

As a side note: After the performances we walked back to the station via Southbank. As we crossed the pedestrian bridge, we were invited to help commemorate the anniversary of the Korean ferry disaster in 2014, which sadly took the lives of many children around the same age as our students. We were invited to write a message on yellow ribbons that were being attached to the bridge. SBS news Korea were covering the story at the time, and they took photos of our students, and interviewed myself and some students. Keep an eye and ear out for Korean SBS news, our school might receive a mention; again I was proud of our student’s empathy and sincerity in participating in this activity.

A great day out! I wish we had taken the whole school.

Jenny Royle - Senior Music Coordinator
ANZAC Ceremony
Monday 23 March, 2015

FUSION MAGAZINE 2015

The College Magazine “Fusion” will be a great souvenir of your child’s time at school. It includes many of the activities for students from the ELC through to Year 12 in 80 full colour pages.

Fusion is designed and put together by a team of students and the cover is chosen by a college wide vote from designs submitted during the year.

If you did not pay for a magazine in the college fees, you can order one on the attached form.

The College Magazine can be ordered for a cost of $20.00.

CALLING FOR COLLEGE MAGAZINE COVER DESIGNS

All members of the college community are invited to submit a design for the cover of the 2015 College Magazine. To be eligible for consideration all designs must meet the following criteria:

- Include: the name “FUSION”, year “2015”, College name and logo
- Provided in a digital file which is set to A4, 300ppi

Designs are to be submitted to Mr Robinson by the end of Term 2, 2015.

The person who created the winning design will receive a $50 prize from the College.

COLLEGE MAGAZINE 2015 ORDER FORM

I wish to order _____ copy/ies of the College Magazine “Fusion 2015”.

STUDENT NAME: __________________________________________________________

CLASS/HOMEGROUP: ____________________________

PARENT NAME: __________________________________________________________

SIGNATURE: ____________________________________________________________

CREDIT CARD DETAILS

CREDIT CARD NO. __________________________________________________________

Cardholder’s Name ___________________________________________ Expiry Date _____ / _______

Cardholder’s Signature ____________________________________________ Amount ____________________

*Payment can also be made via cash or EFTPOS at the General Office.*