Important Dates

- 3 March - Yr 9/10 Round Robin Payment Due
- 6 March - Working Bee
- 7 March - Year 9/10 Round Robin
- 7 March - 9 March - Year 7 Camp
- 8 March - Athletics Carnival Payment Due
- 15 March - Yr 7 Round Robin Payment Due
- 22 March - Athletics Carnival
- 23 March - Yr 5/6 Round Robin Payment Due
- 19 May - 8A & 8C Kiosk Excursion No. 1
- 20 May - 8B & 8D Kiosk Excursion No. 1
- 9 June - 7A & 7B Kiosk Excursion
- 10 June - 7C & 7D Kiosk Excursion
- 23 August - 9A & 9B Kiosk Excursion
- 24 August - 9C & 9D Kiosk Excursion
- 17 October - 8A & 8C Kiosk Excursion No. 2
- 19 October - 8B & 8D Kiosk Excursion No. 2
- 2 November - 7A & 7C Kiosk Excursion No. 2
- 3 November - 7B & 7D Kiosk Excursion No. 2

Term Dates 2016

Term 1 - 27 January - 24 March
Term 2 - 11 April - 24 June

Inside this issue:

PRINCIPALS REPORT

- Evacuation Drill
- Swimming Carnival
- Student Insurance
- Reckless Bike Riding
- World’s Greatest Shave
- Parking Reminder

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our Year 1 to Year 12 Swimming Carnival took place on Thursday 18 February. See inside for a look at the day’s festivities!
Greetings,

Friday 26 February marked the end of the first (full) four weeks of school and it seems to have passed at a blistering pace, particularly when you consider we have four weeks remaining until the end of Term One.

Our evacuation drill was conducted with a minimum of fuss and in a calm and reasonably quick response. We have learnt a lot from the process and are currently revising our procedures after feedback from staff and parents.

Our College Swimming Carnival was a wonderful success, with students from Year 1 to Year 12 participating in a range of activities and events. Many thanks to our Physical Education staff for their tremendous organisation and careful planning to engage all students. Thanks also to all our staff for supporting this (nearly) whole school event.

The Department of Education does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.

The Department of Education does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools by students and/or staff and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

It seems timely, after the previous paragraph and before the paragraph following this one, to inform you that I have had a number of parents express concern about the riding habits of our students, particularly our boys, after school. Parents have expressed concern at the reckless manner in which some of our students are riding on the footpath and roads, leading to a number of reported near-misses. I would encourage all parents to engage in a conversation with their child about safe riding practices, particularly in the heavy traffic conditions which occur after school.

Next Friday 4 March is National Ride2School Day. Students, staff and parents are encouraged to ride or walk to school (safely). More than 300,000 students across Australia will be walking, riding, skating or scooting to school in celebration of Bicycle Network’s National Ride2School Day. In the 1970s, 80% of Australian students rode or walked to school. Now just 25% of students use active transport and Australia is as unhealthy as it’s ever been, with 16,000 people dying each year from inactivity. National Ride2School Day is the pinnacle of the Ride2School program that aims to get students physically active and healthy by riding, walking, skating or scooting to school.

“Australians under the age of 18 need at least 60 minutes of physical exercise every day and one of the easiest ways to do this is to take active transport to school,” said Tess Allaway, General Manager, Behaviour Change at Bicycle Network. “National Ride2School Day shows students and parents that it is fun and easy to ride to school and also highlights the health benefits of physical exercise.”

We have a parent, Karen van Abel, who is participating in this year’s World’s Greatest Shave. This is an important fundraising opportunity for the Leukaemia Foundation to support the 34 Australians every day that will be given the devastating news that they have blood cancer. We intend to support Karen in a variety of ways and encourage you to do so as well. To sponsor Karen please go to https://goo.gl/j2IUnu

A newsletter would seem incomplete without a reminder about parking! It is pleasing to see the drop off zone at Rangeview Rd being used appropriately in the morning. Please do not park in this area and leave your car to walk your child to class. If you wish to do this you need to park in an adjoining street and walk to school. The car park at the Rangeview Rd end of the school is for staff use only.

Upcoming school events include; -

Whole school assembly, Tuesday 1 March at 2:45pm
Working Bee, Sunday 6 March, 9:00 – 11:30am
Year 7 Camp, Monday 7 March – Wednesday 9th March
School Council, Wednesday 16 March, 7:30pm
Whole School Athletics, Tuesday 22 March
Twilight Picnic, Wednesday 23 March, 5:00pm – 7:30pm

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend

David Rose
College Principal

Attendance

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.

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.
What is bullying? Do we mix it up with teasing and other forms of mean behaviour?"

It’s an important topic that needs clarification.

Bullying is a term that’s wrapped in emotion. For many people it’s associated with bad childhood memories. It’s been estimated that around 40 per cent of people have experienced bullying in the past. It’s something that we don’t want to happen to our kids.

But I fear it’s being overused at the moment and can be confused with teasing.

Teasing refers to annoying, hurtful behaviour that is used to get a reaction from someone else. Teasing can be persistent in nature, but not always. It’s generally an attempt to get under a person’s skin. It can involve name-calling; it can be personal and hurtful in nature. It can also infringe on another person’s rights. But generally teasing doesn’t have the key ingredients that make up bullying.

Bullying is the selective, uninvited, repetitive oppression of one person or group by another. It involves three elements – intent to hurt or harm; power imbalance; and repetition over time. It takes many forms and guises including physical aggression; verbal abuse; emotional aggression (or blackmail); intimidation; harassment and exclusion.

The new cyber-dimension to bullying has moved the goalpost for many kids. In the past children and young people could escape bullying behaviours by being at home. Cyber-bullying means that children can’t escape bullies like they once could.

Why the distinction?

I hear the term bullying misused a great deal in the media and when talking with parents. We run the risk of “The Boy Who Cried Wolf” Syndrome where we become so desensitised to the term that we (or teachers) ignore it when children really are the victims of bullying. We also run the risk of failing to skill our kids up to manage rudeness and teasing if we categorise every awful behaviour that kids experience as bullying.

Our ability to be discerning about bullying is as important as the action we take when we are sure that our child is on the receiving end of bullying behaviour. These actions include: dealing with feelings; providing emotional coping skills, getting others involved; building up a child’s support networks; and building self-confidence that can take a battering.

Bullying needs to be taken seriously. But we also need to be discerning about bullying behaviours.

- Taken from Michael Grose – Parenting Ideas Newsletter

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**Brooke Cross : Assistant Principal**

**Student Engagement & Wellbeing**
Swimming Carnival
The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.

**NO DOGS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS, OR WITH PRIOR CONSENT FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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**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**

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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**

Don’t forget, Mondays is student banking day.

If you wish to make a deposit into your child’s Dollarmite account, please send your child to school with their completed deposit slip in their bank book, alongside the cash you are depositing.

Bank books are collected by your child’s classroom or homegroup teacher to be sent to the General Office by 9.30am.

**The Banking Team**

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**Student Wellbeing**

The reason for the focus on the development of wellbeing in children are twofold. We are forced to recognise that Australia is facing an unprecedented increase in childhood and adolescent depression. At any point in time, approximately two per cent of children aged 11-15 and 11 per cent of youth aged 16-24 are suffering a major depressive disorder (Green et al. 2005). Although the case for wellbeing education can be made purely on the basis of prevention of ill health, depression, anxiety and other mental health disorders, there is at least as much value in appreciating the benefits that wellbeing can bring. What makes a ‘good school’ (White & Waters, 2014)? It is difficult to define or quantify what makes a good school; however, researchers agree that it is a type of school that encourages students to be engaged with and enthusiastic about learning (Boniewell & Ryan, 2012). Common features of such schools include a safe environment, an articulated and shared vision of the school’s purpose, explicit goals for students, emphasis on the individual student and rewarding their efforts of improvements (Peterson 2006). Student satisfaction with the school, feelings of security and belonging play a crucial role in their engagement in learning and achievement (Brand et al. 2003). We are committed in building a school culture where students are encouraged to be enthusiastic and engaged in their learning, where they are acknowledged and provided a safe learning environment where they feel a sense of purpose and belonging and where they are rewarded for their efforts of improvements. In closing:

‘There is a growing consensus that whatever else is done schools must become places where it is easier for students and teachers to know one another well and for students to connect to the school and its purposes. Schools in other words must be caring and learning communities.’

Sergiovanni 2000, p. 158

David Husk
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

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The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.
Boronia K-12 College achieved great things at the Primary District Swimming Competition on Friday 26 February. We were lucky enough to have six students qualify for the Division Swimming Competition taking place Wednesday 2 March at Nunawading Aquatic Centre. Congratulations to the qualifying students: Kaden 3/4 B, Jarrah 3/4 A, Jack 3/4 A, Ruby 3/4 A, Jan 5/6 B and Jacob 5/6 A.

It was also a credit to the other team members who all contributed to the overall teams tally bringing home many ribbons. Well done also to Alyshia 5/6 A, Chloe 5/6 B, Nicola 5/6 A, Yvette 5/6 B, Gabby 5/6 B, Gabby 5/6 C & Kirra 5/6 C. Please give these students a pat on the back if you see them during next week for their fantastic efforts!

We also had Jared Year 12 attend and do a terrific and professional job helping out on the day. Thank you also to Sue-Anne Mynott for her help during the day.
Food Technology
JOIN US IN ACTIVE APRIL!

Register yourselves, and invite friends and family to join! Once registered join our team at Boronia K-12 College and help us with the chance to win some fantastic prizes!

Register at: www.activeapril.vic.gov.au
Team Name: Boronia K-12 GET ACTIVE

ALCHESTER VILLAGE FLORIST EASTER DRAWING COMPETITION

- **ENTRYS CLOSE MONDAY 21 MARCH**
- All entries must have your NAME, AGE and SCHOOL or PARENTS NAME and CONTACT.
- **GROUP 1**: AGE 3 TO AGE 7
- **GROUP 2**: AGE 8 TO AGE 12
- **GROUP 3**: AGE 13 TO AGE 16
- **FREE ENTRY**

All pictures will be displayed from March 1, as a part of the Florist’s main window display.

COMMUNITY SWIMMING CARNIVAL

**AGES 6 - 14. ALL WELCOME**

Whether you swim regularly or just at school sports come along and race other people. There will be 25 metre and 50 metre events, in events such as freestyle, breast stroke, back stroke and butterfly.

All levels of swimmers welcome.

Saturday 5th March 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Noble Park Aquatic Centre, 9 Memorial Drive, Noble Park
Closing Date for Entries: Monday 29th February
Sponsored by Oasis Otters Swimming Club and City of Greater Dandenong

For entry form and further details visit: www.oasisotters.swimming.org.au
email: oasisotters@gmail.com
The KNOX FACTOR

YOUR VOICE IS THE FACTOR!

Win your way to centre stage at Knox Carols by Candlelight 2016

FOR DETAILS AND TO REGISTER GO TO
WWW.KNOX.VIC.GOV.AU/KNOXFACTOR

REGISTER NOW!

Knox City Council

Looking for the fastest people in Knox

The Knox Gift is here!

All ages welcome. CASH PRIZES!

www.knox.vic.gov.au/knoxfestival #knoxfest

The BIG SLEEPOVER

SATURDAY 5 MAR 2016

Pitch a tent, roll out a swag or flatten out some cardboard and join in the second annual Big Sleepover after the Twilight Cinema at Knox Festival.

Have a sleepover in Wally Tew Reserve, Ferntree Gully and support UnitingCare Harrison's work with families in crisis experiencing homelessness.

Then wake up to a FREE breakfast FREE fairground and FREE entry to Knox Festival!

REGISTER AT:
WWW.KNOX.VIC.GOV.AU/bigsleepover

Knox City Council

OPPY Bike Ride

2016

Sunday 6 March
10am–3pm

Part of the Knox Festival

SIGN UP NOW!

Win prizes just by registering!

The Oppy Bike Ride is a family friendly task-based ride for cyclists of all levels. With 3 routes exploring Knox's great bike paths and major prizes to be won (group & individual), register now!

Proudly sponsored by
knox.vic.gov.au/oppay
#oppybikeride #knoxfest
facebook.com/knoxcouncil

Knox City Council