**Important Dates**

- 18 February - Year 1 - 12 Swimming Carnival
- 22 February - School Photo Day
- 26 February - Yr 7 Camp Fees Due
- 7 March - 9 March - Year 7 Camp
- 22 March - Athletics Carnival
- 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
- **Term 3** - 11 July - 16 September
- **Term 4** - 3 October - 20 December

**Inside this issue:**

**PRINCIPALS REPORT**

- Welcome to 2016
- Term 1 and Hats
- Threatening Hoax Calls
- New Staff
- New Literacy Program
- Parking

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW FOUNDATION STUDENTS**

Amongst many new students and families joining the College this year, are of course our new Foundation students and their families! What an exciting week it has been as they have been introduced to their new school schedule.
Greetings,

Welcome to a new school year at Boronia K-12 College. The beginning of the year is always an exciting time as we welcome back students, their families and staff from their summer holidays and welcome students, their families and staff who are new to our school. We hope that you enjoyed your break (and I am aware that a number of parents are enjoying it even more now that their children are back at school!)

It’s been great to see the majority of students adhering to the College uniform policy and expectations.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring that all students have a college approved hat to wear when they attend school and that you encourage your child to wear it. All students, during Term One and Term Four are expected to wear our College hats.

Did you know that, in Australia:

- skin cancers account for around 80% of all newly diagnosed cancers
- between 95 and 99% of skin cancers are caused by exposure to the sun
- GPs have over 1 million patient consultations per year for skin cancer
- the incidence of skin cancer in Australia is one of the highest in the world,
- two in three Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer by the time they are 70?

We are enforcing this policy for the health and wellbeing of your child. We encourage you to do the same.

Most parents would be aware of the recent hoax threatening phone calls to Victorian schools in the last few days.

Our school has not received such a call but I wanted to inform you that, like all schools, we have an emergency management plan in place for situations like this, and we practise it throughout the year.

Those schools which did receive a threatening call enacted their emergency management plans and they worked well.

The safety and wellbeing of our students is always our top priority.

Should we receive such a call, all students, staff and visitors would be evacuated off site until given the all clear to return to the college by the appropriate authorities.

If you have any questions I encourage you to contact me.

Not only have we welcomed students and families new to the college in 2016, we also welcome a number of new staff. We are fortunate to have Shantelle Bellingham (Prep), Carli Lange (Years 1/2), Megan Wadsworth (Years 3/4), Jessica Ward (Year 3/4), Jon Dixon (Years 5/6), Matthew Scammell (Middle Years Team Leader), Simon Kearney (Humanities/Literacy), Dan Camille (Phys Ed/Science), Mandy Burchell (Biology/Maths), Carlie Case (Senior Years Team Leader), Judy McLaren (Music), Ben Christensen (Music), Sally Prickett (Phys Ed), Heather Bielski (Food Tech Assistant) and Amy Tomlins (Integration). Congratulations to Laura D’Orazio (nee Cottle) on her marriage during the summer holidays and to Hayley Spark and Sharyn Mullins on the impending additions to their families.

We are trialling a new Literacy program in 2016; designed to support our primary aged children improve their literacy skills. The program involves three students working with one tutor for a half hour period, every morning of the school week. We hope to begin with at least four groups operating at the one time. This means we should be able to support up to 48 children in the two hour period (9:00am – 11:00am) we intend conducting this program each morning. We know this program is effective as we have viewed it in operation in other schools.

For this program to be a success here we need your help! We are seeking parents/grandparents willing to contribute time to be a tutor, from a minimum of 2 hours (one morning per week) to a maximum of 10 hours per week – it doesn’t matter. The session will run from 9:00am – 11:00am every morning. Nominate for one morning, two, three, four or five! It doesn’t have to be consecutive mornings. We will ask you to make a commitment to always be there on your designated morning and commit to a term at a time. We’ll provide the training and appreciation for your contribution. If you are interested please contact Jennie Wall in the satellite office (Rangeview Rd end). Jennie is available in the mornings and will happily provide further information and/or register your interest as a tutor.

A newsletter would seem incomplete without a reminder about parking! The area in front of the school along Rangeview Rd is a drop-off only zone during the school 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.

Regards,

David Rose
College Principal
**Student Engagement and Wellbeing**

Welcome back to another fabulous year at Boronia K-12! We have had another busy but relatively smooth start to the school year. It has been with much enthusiasm and excitement that we have welcomed all students and their families (both new and existing) back to our college in the past week. It was delightful to see all of the new faces last Friday. Both big and small! We are also blessed to have a number of incredible new staff joining us. It was fabulous to have such an amazing turn out to Parent Teacher conferences last Thursday. A great deal of printed information was handed out on this night so if you did miss out on receiving this, please contact your child’s class or home group teacher to have this sent home. As a leadership team we have been extremely impressed with the high number of students wearing correct uniform and adhering to school policy on the use of mobile phones. Thank you for your support and assistance in these areas.

We are extremely lucky to have David Husk joining the Student Wellbeing team this year. I look forward to working closely with him throughout this year to continue to build on programs, services, policies and procedures to deliver strong outcomes for all of our students. Just a quick reminder, anyone needing assistance with school uniform through State Schools Relief, or with vouchers for text books and stationery please contact David Husk, Jackie Dyck or myself. During the holidays a school Face Book page was created to give us another medium to communicate with parents and our school community. This has been well received and is being used appropriately, as a positive way to inform, collaborate and celebrate our events, processes and achievements. We will continue to use this newsletter, Tiq Biz and our website to communicate information also. The name of the group is Boronia K12 Parents and community. A big thank you to our parent administrators. Myself and other staff members are also part of this group and will endeavour to answer any queries related to school operations that we can. As always, if you have any queries, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact the school office to speak to the relevant staff member.

**Developing Good Study Habits with Kids**

*Taken from Michael Grose – Parenting Ideas Newsletter*

Here are 5 ways to develop healthy, strong study skills that will serve your young person well this year and throughout their lives.

1. **Establish a thorough homework process**

   Doing the homework is one thing, but there are many steps in the process before handing an assignment in. Encourage your young person to:
   - Write down an assignment when it’s given orally
   - Ask the teacher clarifying questions if he doesn’t understand anything
   - Use a planner or some other organiser to plan his or time
   - Place his/her homework in a designated place as soon as its finished

2. **Establish a Study Zone at home**

   Choose a consistent study or homework space that’s conducive to working. Some young people need absolute quiet when doing homework, while others work better with soft music. Contrary to the opinions of many teens, studies consistently show that loud music and/or TV are highly distracting to students. Keep work and sleep spaces separate.

3. **Establish a regular study time**

   The establishment of a consistent and specific time to do home work has been linked to academic success. Help your young person work out the best time for him or her to crack the books – before or after dinner, or both. Encourage your young person to take regular breaks to keep their brain alert. Every hour – or whenever she feels frustrated or angry – she should get up and walk around, get a snack and let her brain recover.

4. **Establish a way to stay organised**

   Getting organised reduces stress levels and improves the chance of success. Consider a colour-coding system to keep assignments organised by selecting a single colour for each class (like science or history). Use that colour for that subject’s folder, highlighters, sticky notes, etc. The colours will not only keep your teen organised but will also enhance his or her recall of the subject.

5. **Establish good time management skills**

   The best way to help your young person organise their time is to use a large wall calendar so they can jot down study, leisure, family and other activities. The visual nature of the wall calendar will enable you as a parent to help them stay on track as well.

*Brooke Cross : Assistant Principal*

**Student Engagement & Wellbeing**

**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.

Thank you for your support.
The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.

Student Welfare 2016

A warm welcome to our College community. Here’s hoping that you all have had a wonderful and relaxing break over the New Year period with family and close friends.

It’s exciting to be a part of the creation of a new important role at the College this year. The role of Student Wellbeing Coordinator for the entire K-12 College is a clear indication of the commitment of the Principal Team to improve the learning outcomes of all our students. Student resilience and wellbeing are essential for both academic and social development and this is optimised by the provision of safe, supportive and respectful learning environments. Boronia K-12 College shares this responsibility with the whole community.

Not only do confident, resilient children with a capacity for emotional intelligence perform better academically, these skills can also contribute to the creation of strong social bonds and supportive communities, and the maintenance of healthy relationships and responsible lifestyles.

Part of my role in improving student wellbeing will be by:

- Helping students develop capabilities which promote health and wellbeing and lead to success in life (e.g., accessing the Australian Curriculum)
- Ensuring the school and home learning environments are supported (e.g., safe & supportive schools)
- Strengthening engagement with parents and the wider community (e.g., parent engagement)

I look forward to working closely with our leadership team, our dedicated teachers, our valued staff members and of course our parent community.

David Husk
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

Student Banking

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

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

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

Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

Student Banking