### Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>Rescheduled Christmas Concert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 9 December</td>
<td>Yr 9 Connect Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 December</td>
<td>All Library Books Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 December</td>
<td>Colour Run</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>Yr 9 Connect &amp; Year 4 Melbourne Zoo Amazing Race Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>Year 8/9 Soccer Academy Elective, Gosch's Paddock &amp; AAMI Park Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 December</td>
<td>Secondary Years Awards Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 December</td>
<td>Last Day Term 4, 1.30pm Finish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2017 Dates

- 27 January - Fee Payment & Stationery Pack Collection
- 30 January - Fee Payment and Stationery Pack Collection
- 1 February - Classes Begin
- Friday 31 March - Last Day Term 1
- Tuesday 18 April - First Day Term 2
- Friday 30 June - Last Day Term 2
- Monday 17 July - First Day Term 3
- Friday 22 Sep. - Last Day Term 3
- Monday 9 Oct. - First Day Term 4
- Friday 22 Dec. - Last Day Term 4

### Inside this issue:

**ACTING PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**
- A Wonderfully Busy 2016

**OTHER ARTICLES OF INTEREST**
- Year 9 Connect, 5/6 Cook Off
- Year 1/2 Inquiry Unit: Under the Sea
- When Bunnings Came to Visit
- Year 8/9 ‘Off Track’ Camp
- STEM News: Angelic Angles
- Year 3/4 Inquiry Unit: Our Footprint

### CLOVELLY COTTAGE JUNIOR CHOIR VISIT

On Wednesday 30 November, our Junior Choir students visited Clovelly Cottage, an aged care facility, to perform some Christmas songs and spread the joy amidst the holiday season.
The last couple of weeks have continued to be full of buzz and activity; Outdoor Ed camp, Connect camp, Sports for Life elective’s golf excursion and our whole school Step Up Day, with still quite a few events to go! We have our rescheduled Christmas Carols next Monday night, the whole school Colour Run on Tuesday, Amazing Race at the Zoo for the Year 3/4s and Year 9’s on Wednesday, the Year 6 graduation next Thursday night and the Awards night on Monday 19 December.

As we near the end of another exciting year in the history of the still young and developing Boronia K-12 College, this is a great opportunity to look back and reflect on what we have achieved, how far we have come already and what we still have to look forward to. This year has seen our College community come together and continue to develop as one. We have enjoyed a growing number of whole college events such as; Sporting Carnivals, commemoration ceremonies, music concerts, art exhibitions, book fairs, open nights, welcome BBQs, whole school assemblies, dress up days, Parent’s Club stalls, discos and BBQ’s, Mother’s and Father’s Day breakfasts, a school production and many more. Added to this, in different areas of the school we also enjoyed numerous, camps, excursions, excursions, our Valedictory Dinner, our upcoming Year 6 Graduation, choir performances, the Year 9 city experience, KIOSC and much more. It is wonderful to be a part of such a busy and exciting school community. There is always something going on and many things to celebrate. We continue to improve, reflect and grow each year. As a community we have huge potential to continue to achieve innovative and exciting change and development, academically, personally and as a whole.

As the year winds down we prepare to farewell a number of students and staff across the College. Our Graduating class of 2016 is about to embark on a new adventure in their lives. With our Year 12 VCE graduates receiving their ATAR scores on Monday, they are about to experience one of the biggest changes – the transition from student to adult. Regardless of what they decide to do after Year 12, this new adventure ahead is full of anticipation, excitement, uncertainty and anxiety as the unfamiliar awaits. We wish them well with all their future endeavours.

A number of students in other year levels will be moving on at the end of this year also. We thank you for your support, feedback and encouragement during my stint as Acting Principal.

The Team Leaders for 2017 will be:

- **Early Years** – Megan Ward
- **Middle Years** – Mel Hancock (will continue in the acting Leading Teacher role)
- **Upper Middle Years** – Olga Kowalczuk
- **Senior Years** – Carlie Case

2017 will see the introduction of a number of new and exciting developments, initiatives, services and programs to our College. Stay tuned for news on this. In the meantime, have a safe, relaxing and rejuvenating Christmas break. We look forward to continuing our exciting journey together. On a personal note, a massive thank you to all the staff, parents and students for their support, feedback and encouragement during my stint as Acting Principal!

**Read this before you read your child’s report! – Taken from Michael Grose - Newsletter**

Your kids will appreciate the right focus at report time

- Could try harder... always does her best... lacks concentration...easily distracted...a pleasure to teach...

School reports can mean anxious times for children too. ‘Will my parents be disappointed or proud?’ is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Focus your attention on these aspects to make sense of children’s reports:

**Expectations**

- Expectations are tricky. If they are too high, then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with a child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may give you a good yardstick.

**Different rates of learning**

- Remember there are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were young. Instead, look for individual progress.

**Safeguard confidence**

- Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible
Here are 5 ideas to pass to think about before reading your child's report:

1. Look for strengths first. Focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.

2. Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you can’t ask any more than that.

3. Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future.

4. Take note of student’s self-assessment. Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.

5. Discuss the report with your child talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask your child how they performed and discuss their concerns.

Be mindful that no matter how good, bad or indifferent your child's report may be, he or she can wipe the slate clean and make a brand new start next year. And it’s amazing the difference a summer holiday can make.

Brooke Cross
Acting Principal

Assistant Principal’s Report

I have had a wonderful experience in my first year at Boronia K-12 College. I began the year as leader of the Middle Years team and was overwhelmed with the passion and dedication the staff had towards ensuring the best outcomes for all the students they taught. The building had a warm and friendly feel and the students were energetic and always keen for a chat and a joke. They worked hard, sometimes against obstacles, to achieve many successes. I had the opportunity to attend both the Year 7 and Years 5/6 camps, which was a wonderful opportunity to get to know the students in a more relaxed atmosphere. The students challenged themselves to participate in some extreme activities, as well as developed life-long skills in taking responsibility, working in teams and independence.

It has been wonderful to see the community spirit exhibited, as the college came together as one, at many whole school events. I remember being particularly impressed with the way our older students supported, encouraged and coached younger students at the college’s sporting carnivals. I distinctly remember in Term One, at the Swimming Carnival, watching a senior secondary student demonstrate a swimming stroke technique to a junior student – at that point I knew I had become a part of special and unique educational environment.

We have so many talented students across the college. Events such as the ANZAC Day Commemoration Ceremony, where the incredible mosaic was unveiled and beautiful musical tributes where performed, demonstrated the amazing gifts our students have. I have been lucky enough to attend many events and exhibitions and visited classrooms, displaying work form The Arts and a range of technologies, showcasing all the college has to offer.

In the later part of the year, I have been blessed to be able to act in the Assistant Principal of Curriculum role. This has given me an even greater capacity to see the extraordinary work being done by staff and students in classrooms across the college. Some amazing work is being done in Mathematics across the college, supported by our dedicated teachers involved in the Maths Science Specialist Initiative. The English programs across the school are helping to engage all students, regardless of their level, to achieve success. We have a rich Science program, supported by our relationship with KIOSC, that is providing students with hand-on experiences, knowledge and science inquiry skills to understand and explore the world they live in. Our inquiry units in the primary years and studies of humanities in the secondary are not only providing students with new understandings, but the opportunity to build interdisciplinary skills such as researching, presenting and working collaboratively, which will help them achieve success, regardless of their future pathways.

Speaking of pathways, our incredible Senior Team have worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure our students are supported and guided in not only their pathways within the school, but also their direction when they leave us. Although the final years of secondary school can often involve feeling overwhelmed, our students appeared to have a perfect mix of healthy nerves and excitement about the future. This can in part be attributed to the support the wonderful senior team offered the students, both in and out of the classroom. It was also beautiful to see our ELC Kinder students offer our Year 12’s stress management tools, in the form of high fives and bubble wrap!

We are excited to have appointed a number of new staff for 2017, including a Languages teacher to start a vibrant Spanish program with the students next year.

Overall, it has been an exciting and successful year for the college and I feel very privileged to have been a part of it. Thank you for all the support I have received from students, staff and parents. I am looking forward to many more great years at the college.

Matthew Scammell
Assistant Principal

LAST DAY TERM 4
Tuesday 20 December
1.30PM FINISH
Year 9 Connect EAT Students’ 5/6 “Cook Off”

The Year 6 students had a wonderful time putting all the skills they learnt throughout the term in action, as they competed in a ‘cook off’ organised by our Year 9 Connect students. Students all put a lot of effort into their dishes and produced some quality food. It was great to see the Year 6 students taking responsibility and ensuring they had the food they need on the correct day. The Year 6 students would like to thank Mrs Kowalczuk and her helpful Year 9 students for allowing them such a great opportunity!

Year 1/2 Inquiry Unit: Under the Sea

This term, the Year 1/2’s have been learning about life ‘Under The Sea’ during our Inquiry lessons. The students have been enthusiastically creating and investigating many different aspects of marine life both in and out of the classroom. The 1/2 learning space has been transformed into an aquarium, displaying some of the fantastic artwork that the students have created in Art. The 1/2 students have loved creating fish out of paper mache, jelly fish out of drink bottles and some glass jar aquariums with the help of Mrs Trounson. Come and check it out!
When Bunnings Came to Visit

On Thursday the 24th of November we got a generous helping of gardening materials and plants from Bunnings. We were lucky enough to be in the Art garden at the time and got to plant some basil, sage, lettuce, parsley, chives and also some beautiful flowers. If you would like to have a look at the new Art garden, come at lunch and recess Tuesday or Thursday. Thank-you Bunnings for kindly giving us these beautiful plants and helping us and giving great advice for planting.

Alyshia 5/6A

On Thursday the 24th of November, I helped plant plants and herbs. The herbs that we planted were coriander, basil, parsley, chives and sage. We also planted cos lettuce and strawberries. We planted some lavenders and other flowers. Bunnings donated all the plants, a lot of soil, all of the mulch and equipment. We got watering cans, shovels and a bamboo fence as well. The Art garden now looks amazing. We thank Bunnings for donating everything and everyone for helping, especially Alyshia C, Emma L, Jesse M, Max H, Sarah C, Gabby A and Mrs Trousen.

Jasmine 5/6C

On Thursday the 24th November, we went to the Art garden to plan various herbs and flowers. Bunnings came to our school and donated lots of good things. We were thrilled! It was wonderful to work with other 5/6 students, as well as the 1/2/3/4 students that came to help as well.

Emma 5/6A

On Thursday 24th November, we had lots of fun helping the Bunnings people renovated of Art garden. We planted flowers, fruits, vegetables and put up a bamboo gate. It was great that we now have new spade, gardening gloves and watering cans. We would like to thank Bunnings for their donation and help.

Jesse M, Cooper W & Max H 5/6B
Two weeks ago students in the Year 8 and 9 Off Track Elective went on camp to Buttercup, near Merrijig. The camp was for the duration of three days and two nights. Students were to set up and sleep in tents and cook their food on trangias. Even though the weather was bleak it did not stop the students from embracing each challenge that was thrown at them, including the 12 kilometre hike they achieved on Mt Stirling! The students were rewarded for all their hard work near the summit of Mt Stirling when it started snowing. Many of the students in attendance had never seen snow before, so it was very exciting! Students also developed skills in new areas, including how to make a camp fire and experiencing archery. Overall the camp was a huge success and a great time was had by all!
Junior Choir Clovelly Cottage Visit

Thanks to the College Junior Choir, who treated the residents of Clovelly Cottage nursing home with some wonderful songs on Wednesday 30 November. The children sang really well and brightened up the audience’s day with some Christmas cheer. It was particularly moving seeing some of the elderly residents smiling and singing along to some of the songs. Thank you to Mrs Caruso, Mrs Harvey and Mrs D’Orazio for all your efforts in training and preparing the choir, and the other Prep to Year 4 staff who made this performance possible!

‘Share the Joy’ Christmas Appeal

In the midst of all the celebrations, we know that there are many families who find it tough at Christmas time. So, as a school community, we would like to be able to help them enjoy Christmas with some things that they may not otherwise be able to have. We will be collecting items (see as follows) in the lead up to the holiday period.

Suggested items are; non-perishable food items, whether ordinary items or items more specifically for Christmas and/or Toys, with a label detailing what is inside, indicating a boy/girl and an approximate age.

A collection box has been placed in the General Office foyer for parents or students to drop-off donations. The donated items will be picked up Knox Infolink and distributed to needy families in our community.

Thank you for your help in making this holiday season an enjoyable one for families doing it tough this Christmas time.

Second Hand Books & Uniform

Looking to buy, swap or even sell your child’s second hand uniform or books? Simply search for the Boronia K-12 College Facebook page developed to assist in making these transactions happen. Monitored by College Council simply search on Facebook for the page below:

Boronia K-12 College - Uniform & Books - Buy, Swap, Donate and Sell
ANGELIC ANGLES

During Term 4, the Middle Years students have been investigating angles. Last week, a group of students were set the challenging of using their knowledge of triangles to find unknown angles. The students had a lot of fun drawing a range of triangles in the four square grids outside. Some students were even able to find all of the angles without even using a protractor!

Year 3/4 Inquiry Unit: Our Footprint

Recently our Year 3/4 students enjoyed constructing and erupting their own volcano as we learnt about natural disasters during Inquiry and Art. Our Inquiry Unit, ‘Our Footprint,’ saw students learning about Earth’s surface and how this changes over time with human activity and natural disasters. We invited the Year 1/2 students to join us as we experimented with baking soda and vinegar to observe our volcano eruptions. We saw lots of excited faces as the volcanos erupted and knocked over villages and the surrounding environments. Students then used their writing time to learn about and write up a science experiment with a hypothesis, aim, observations and conclusion.
State Schools’ Relief

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
2017 Year 7 Uniform Pack

Fact sheet for parents

Introduction to State Schools’ Relief
State Schools’ Relief works closely with all government schools across Victoria. Each year State Schools’ Relief provide assistance to families who are experiencing financial disadvantage with school clothing, shoes and other essential items.

Introduction to the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
The Victorian Government has a commitment to being the Education State, aiming to break the link between disadvantage and achievement. Through government funding the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) was established to provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports days and excursions. To find out more about CSEF or to apply for assistance go to www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

State Schools’ Relief has received extra government funding so that it can help more families needing financial assistance and ensure no one is left behind. This extra funding is being used by State Schools’ Relief to assist students who receive CSEF assistance.

2017 Year 7 Uniform Pack for CSEF recipients
In 2017 every Year 7 government school student who is a recipient of CSEF automatically qualifies to receive a uniform pack that is provided through State Schools’ Relief.

If your child receives CSEF assistance and is in Year 6 in 2016 you can ask for a uniform pack to be provided by State Schools’ Relief through the secondary school your child is enrolled to attend in 2017.

Parents who have already purchased their child’s uniform for 2017 and then become a CSEF recipient can still apply for a CSEF Year 7 Uniform Pack in 2017.

What is in the CSEF 2017 Year 7 uniform pack?
The uniform pack includes basic uniform items needed to start secondary school.

For Year 6 students commencing Year 7 in 2017 State Schools' Relief will provide one item from each row of the table provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black leather shoes – Lace up / Skate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper / Jacket / Bomber / Rugby Top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shorts / Trousers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Sleeve / Short Sleeve Shirt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black leather shoes – Lace up / T-Bar / Skate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper / Jacket / Bomber / Rugby Top</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Dress / Winter Skirt + Shirt / Trousers + Shirt / Shorts + Shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If above is NOT a Summer Dress then select either:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Sleeve Shirt / Short Sleeve Shirt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students will also receive one free pair shoes supplied directly from SSR.

What does the CSEF Year 7 Uniform Pack cost me as a parent?
Where State Schools’ Relief cannot supply uniform items directly to parents you will receive a voucher that subsidises the cost of uniform items. The voucher(s) can be redeemed at your child’s school uniform shop or an independent uniform retailer which will be listed on the voucher. Parents receiving vouchers may need to make a contribution towards the cost of individual uniform items. The amount a parent has to pay will depend on the retail purchase price and the State Schools’ Relief subsidy.

The vouchers provided by State Schools’ Relief list every approved item for the student and the maximum purchase value that State Schools’ Relief will subsidise for each item. Parents who receive vouchers can work out how much extra they may need to pay towards uniform items using the school’s uniform price list.

State Schools’ Relief
Telephone: 03 8769 8400  Email: contact@ssr.net.au  Website: www.ssr.net.au
State Schools’ Relief
Prep CSEF uniform support

Fact sheet for parents

Program background
As part of the Victorian Government’s Affordable Uniform Program, every Prep government school student who is a recipient of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualifies for a uniform pack voucher. Each year, State Schools’ Relief (SSR) provides tens of thousands of children with school clothing, shoes and other essential items. For the first time SSR has received government funding so that it can help more families needing financial assistance, and ensure no one is left behind.

Eligibility requirements for CSEF can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

What uniform support is provided?
SSR will provide:
- A basic windcheater and tracksuit pants
- OR one of the following
- A bomber jacket, rugby top, hoodie or zip jacket

How can parents apply for the uniform?
Parents must apply for CSEF by the closing date listed at www.education.vic.gov.au/csef before they approach the school to apply. Primary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents at www.ssr.net.au/schools.

Once approved, the voucher will be dispatched electronically to the school, uniform shop or uniform supplier. The school will provide the voucher to the parent/student to present at the uniform retailer (and not at SSR).

What if parents have already purchased their child’s uniforms?
Eligible parents who have already purchased their child’s uniforms for the year can select items of a larger size from the retailer.

Can parents who are ineligible for CSEF or, who have children in other year levels receive assistance from SSR?
Yes. Applications for parents requiring financial assistance for uniforms, text books or shoes are encouraged via the regular SSR services – www.ssr.net.au/schools. SSR only responds to requests from schools (not from parents directly). Parents are encouraged to talk to their school principal, assistant principal or student welfare coordinator about their situation and they will assess their eligibility.

Terms and conditions
- Only CSEF recipients are eligible for the uniform packs.
- Each student is eligible for a single uniform pack.
- A voucher is dispatched electronically to the school, uniform shop or uniform supplier on approval. The school will provide the voucher to the parent/student to present at the uniform retailer (and not at SSR).
- The order is valid for 45 days from date of issue.
- Once expired, a new application must be lodged.
- Expired vouchers cannot be redeemed.
- Each voucher specifies the individual items funded by SSR.
- No change to the items can be made unless through the school.
- Changes made in store will not be honoured by SSR.
- The maximum voucher value is $57 and any short fall will not be covered by SSR.
- The value of the voucher is a maximum value rather than an entitled amount. Should the value of the item be less than $57 the difference will not be credit towards other items.

More information
Parents: For CSEF application details please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Schools: For SSR applications please visit www.education.vic.gov.au/ssr

State Schools’ Relief
Telephone: 03 8769 8400  Email: contact@ssr.net.au  Website: www.ssr.net.au
BORONIA K-12 COLLEGE BREAKFAST CLUB

Five Days a Week!

Monday—Friday
8.15AM - 8.45AM

Meet us in the Performing Arts Foyer.
Boronia K-12 College
Christmas Concert

Date
Monday 12 December

Time
7.00 pm - 8.30 pm
Students must be at their classrooms by 6.40 pm

Place
Performing Arts Amphitheatre

Don’t Forget
Parents, family and friends, BYO chair.
Students are NOT required to bring their own chair. Children will be sitting in their classroom groups at the front of the stage.
Parents, family and friends feel free to begin placing chairs by 3.30pm.

And...
Glow sticks, flashing badges, and all things bursting with Christmas cheer very welcome!
BE PART OF THE STORM RECOVERY COMMUNITY CLEAN UP CAMPAIGN!

During December 5th–18th we are calling all residents to help clean up after the October wind storms. Tree debris is still scattered throughout the Yarra Valley, Dandenong Ranges and surrounds. It’s particularly important to reduce the tree waste throughout communities as we enter into the fire season. Affected residents can register for a free pick up of remaining debris.

Visit www.stormcleanup.com.au or call 9296 6363 to find out how you can help your community and your community can help you.

This State Government funded initiative is supported by