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Social and Personal Responsibility

Opportunities for all

Achieving Personal Best

Respect and Relationships

Date: 10 June 2016

Issue: 5

— PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

N

The last part of Term 2 is always a particularly busy time at the College. Students from Year 10 to Year 12 have undertaken exams and teachers have begun to write end of semester reports. I have been very pleased with the positive manner in which the students have approached their exams. Parents should note that end of semester reports will no longer be mailed but will be accessed using COMPASS in Week 2 of Term 3. Parents should contact the school, if they cannot access their child's reports.

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It will be beneficial for parents to sit down with their child and go through the finer details of the report and recognise areas that are working well and define areas for improvement. If parents have concerns about their child's progress they should contact the appropriate Team Leader.

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Second semester is a very important part of the academic year. Students need to make sure they place themselves in a position that ensures that they will be promoted to the next year level come the end of the year. During the first half of Term 3 the College will begin to plan for 2017. It is a particularly important time for students in Year 10 and Year 11, as they will be asked to select their subjects for the following year. To support this, the College will hold a Careers Expo during the day on Wednesday July 20th, which will provide students with the opportunity to access a range of educational providers and employer groups on site. This is followed by an information evening for parents starting at 7pm. In addition, parents and students will have an individual course counselling appointment with one of our Careers' Advisors between the 25th of July and the 5th of August. It is particularly important for students to make the most of this opportunity, as it can be useful in identifying future career and/or training options.

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STUDENT ATTENDANCE

I want to again take the opportunity to stress the importance of regular attendance. Even if a child is absent from school for one day a fortnight, this is equivalent to them missing one month of school across the year. It is important that we work together to ensure that all of our students maximise their attendance in order to develop good habits and achieve high quality learning outcomes. I often tell the students that one of the biggest resources that they have at their disposal is their education. It is these formative years that will help them to build a pathway to their future; a future that is best supported through regular attendance at school.

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SCHOOL COUNCIL – PARENT REPRESENTATIVE CASUAL VACANCY

A casual vacancy currently exists for the Parent Representative on the Pakenham Secondary College School Council. If anyone is interested in filling this position, they should contact me on 5945 1433 to register their interest.

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Principal's Report continued...

SCHOOL NETBOOK PROGRAM

In 2014 the Pakenham Secondary College School Council confirmed that the school will introduce a Netbook program. This is currently being phased in over a three year period so that by the start of 2017, all students attending Pakenham Secondary College will have their own Netbook.

In 2016 we were expecting that students in Years 7, 8 10 and 11 would each have their own Netbook. Students in these Year Levels who currently do not have a Netbook still have the opportunity to participate in the program. Students have the opportunity to bring a Netbook from home, or purchase one through JB Hi Fi Educational Solutions, which is listed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development on its preferred supplier panel. It can be paid for in full using a credit card or BPAY, while some parents may choose to use the finance option, which involves leasing the device. Others may choose a credit card option, whereby interest free finance is arranged through the provision of a Credit Card. Details regarding these options are available on the portal which can be accessed at www.jbeducation.com.au/byod – using the code: PSC2016

Further details can be obtained by contacting Mike Higgins at the College on 5945 1433.

LAST DAY OF TERM 2

Parents are reminded that the last day of this term is **Friday, June 24th** and students will be dismissed at 2.30pm.

Ray Squires
Principal

Compass

Please check your personal details on Compass

The school uses the Compass Parent Portal to communicate with you about your child, so it is very important that we have up to date contact details. Please ensure that you have provided an email address and mobile phone number – you can check and make changes to these on the Personal Tab on Compass.

Your child's Mid-Year Report will be accessible on Compass early Term Three.

If you have not received your Compass username and password, please contact the office and we can provide these.

Compass: <https://pakenhamsc.vic.jdlf.com.au/>

Messages from the Office

Diary Dates

June

- Friday 17th Report Writing Day No classes
- 20th – 24th Year 11 Exams
- Friday 24th Last day of Term 2 2.30pm finish

July

- Monday 11th Term 3 commences
- Wednesday 20th VCE/VCAL Expo

Excursions/Incursions

June

- Thursday 16th Basketball Year 11 & Year 12
- Tuesday 21st Queen Victoria Market VCAL 11.6
- Thursday 23rd Regional Cross Country

July

- Thursday 14th State Cross Country
- Thursday 14th Gene Technology Access Centre Year 12 Biology
- Mon 18th & Thurs 21st Leadership Training 9.1
- Wednesday 20th Digital Thumbprint Year 7
- Friday 29th Swinburne Secondary College Year 12 Physics

Uniform Shop Hours

The uniform shop is open on **Tuesdays between 1pm and 4.30pm** and **Saturdays between 9am and 12pm during school terms only**. The shop is located behind the gym (via Cunningham Drive) and the Manager can be contacted on 5940 2912.

Senior School

Term Two has been a busy time in the Senior School. Meeting the demands of either VCAL or VCE means that students need to be at school every day, working in class and putting in the extra hours at home. For some this has meant they have needed to reassess what they have been doing and make some adjustments. Seeking feedback from teachers and acting on the advice given is essential for students to maximise their potential. Many students have chosen to make use of the study centre after school until 5:00 pm as teachers make themselves available to assist students during this time.

Many of the Year 11 students have had the opportunity to visit places as diverse as the State Library and the Royal Cranbourne Botanical Gardens, to support their learning in Unit One. The feedback has been very positive from students and staff alike. We encourage students to make the most of these opportunities and ensure that they return their permission forms in a timely manner. Year 11 exams begin on Monday 20th until Friday 24th June. Students are expected to be at school during this time and will not be allowed to leave the College after exams have finished. The start of Term Three signifies the beginning of Unit Two for all Year 11 subjects.

Year 12 students visited Monash University in the past week to learn about how they can apply for various courses for 2017. They were able to attend an Expo and talk to representatives from various tertiary providers to look at courses and options. Students will have the opportunity to have interviews with the College's Career Team who will be able to guide them through the process. Exams for Year 12 were completed last week and students need to ensure they act upon feedback provided. The GAT was run on Tuesday of last week. The Senior School Team was very impressed in the way in which all students involved conducted themselves.

Jo-Anne Duggan
Senior School Leader

Health and Physical Education

It has been an extremely busy yet productive semester for the Health and Physical Education program. Our Year 7-10 students have been developing and enhancing their skills and movements required for participation in a number of sports.

The Year 11 and 12 students have been busy completing Unit One and Three respectively and preparing for the upcoming end of semester exams.

The electives at Year 9 and 10 have allowed students to further develop their knowledge and understanding of a number of concepts specific to the Health and Physical Education industry.

Finally the Health and Physical Education faculty would like to take this opportunity to wish all students undertaking exams during Term Two the best of luck.

Bradley Matthews
KLA Co-ordinator, Health and Physical Education

After School Literacy Support Club

An After School Literacy Support Club is available each Thursday afternoon between 3.30pm – 4.00pm in B12 with Mrs Kielhofer. The focus of this club is to provide a small group of students with support in literacy skill building activities including, spelling, grammar, academic writing and reading. Students are encouraged to contact their English teacher or Mrs Kielhofer to obtain a permission form.

"The Writers' Club"



The Writers' Club provides an opportunity for keen writers and authors to sharpen their writing skills, share ideas and give and receive feedback about their writing. One of the aims of the club is to encourage students to submit entries to various local, state and national writing competitions across a range of genres such as, poetry, essays and short stories, as well as the annual school magazine *Malonga*.

We meet every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at lunchtime in B6 and students from every year level are most welcome.

Breakfast Club

All students are welcome to come to Breakfast Club. Toast and milk/milo will be provided Monday to Friday between 8:15am and 8:45am, near the canteen.

The bread is kindly donated by Bakers Delight each week.

We are now offering cereal: Corn Flakes, Rice Bubbles and Sultana Bran!

A poster for 'Homework Club' on a grid background. At the top, the words 'Homework Club' are written in large, colorful, block letters. Below this, a ruler is shown. The text 'Need help with your homework?' is in a blue box. Below that, 'Every Thursday afternoon in the library til 4:30pm' is in a blue box. A yellow box says 'All year levels welcome'. At the bottom, a red box says 'Benefits', followed by a list of benefits in pink boxes: 'No homework at home', 'Books to borrow & use in the library', 'Computers with internet access', and 'Printing & photocopying'. The poster is decorated with illustrations of school supplies: paper clips, a protractor, a pencil sharpener, and three pens (black, yellow, and blue).

Malonga Magazine Needs You!

The College Magazine Committee is seeking enthusiastic and reliable students to contribute to the preparation of Malonga for 2016. Creative young people who would like to write, draw, design and take photographs are welcome to join the team.

See Ms Hurrell or Mr White in B6 at lunchtime Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

COMMUNITY BASED ACHIEVEMENTS

Community Based Achievements Pakenham Secondary College

Notification of student success

We would like to hear about your child's achievements outside school and share their success with the wider school community.

If you would like your child's achievement to be recognised in the next newsletter, please complete the slip below and return to the General Office, as soon as possible. (The Coordinators will attempt to include all nominations).

Child's Name: Homegroup:

Details of Achievement:

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Parent signature: Contact No.....

Please return this slip to the College with evidence of the achievement.