PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome back to a new school term! I hope you enjoyed the holidays and that they provided an opportunity for students and families alike to have a break from the rigours of school. Of course, it is most important that students settle back into their ‘school routine’ quickly and make the most of every day at school. For our Year 12 students in particular, effective time management is critical as they only have this term and a couple of weeks of Term 4 remaining. Anthea and I enjoyed our break and I would like to thank Anne DeManser and Kath Tanner for their time as Principal and Assistant Principal respectively.

P-4 Class Captains:
At Monday’s assembly the P-4 Class Captains for Term 2 were announced and I would like to congratulate the following students on being selected for this important role:
Year Prep: Lila Killen and Jack Fowler
Year 1/2A: Elise Killen and Charlie Calvert
Year 1/2B: Chelsea McCosh and Adam White
Year 2/3: Felicity White and Shayne Woods
Year Three/Four A: Ruby Schuuring and Lachie McGavin
Year Three/Four B: Lara O’Farrell and Caleb Humm

March Aussie of the Month:
Congratulations to Anna Roxburgh who was presented with her June ‘Aussie of the Month’ award at Monday’s assembly. The Aussie of the Month award reflects key values we share as a school and as a community including a sense of fair play and a concern for others. The award particularly acknowledges Anna’s ongoing support of younger students. Well done Anna!

School Production:
The school production ‘Oliver’ is only a short time away and the cast and crew have been very busy preparing for the opening. I’m sure that, like past productions, ‘Oliver’ will be a really entertaining show that will have very broad appeal so I encourage those who haven’t purchased tickets yet to do so in the coming weeks. It is always fantastic to see the culmination of months of hard work and commitment come together in such a positive way.

Prep 2014 Information Evening: Tuesday 30 July
An Information Evening will be held for families of our 2014 Prep students on Tuesday 30 July commencing at 7pm in the prep room. Enrolment packs are currently available at the kinder and the school office and will also be available on the night. The night is always very informative and provides the opportunity for parents to learn about things like the Early Years Program, the use of school buses, school uniform as well as the expectations we have of students in the school. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions. Our Prep teacher, Sue Amos, our P-4 leader, Kath Tanner and I look forward to meeting you on the night.

Semester 1 Reports:
As I mentioned at Monday’s P-12 assembly I hope all students in the school had an opportunity to discuss their Semester 1 reports with their families during the holiday break. The reports recognise what each student has achieved during the semester
and, whilst students should be proud of what they have achieved, it is very important that they read and act upon the recommendations for improvement.

Graeme Good
RDA

Ryan Galway and Noah Bradbury have been participating in the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) during Term 2. They are pictured receiving their Certificates for Trail Riding and Horsemastership. The horses that they have been riding are Basil (white) and Meg (Black).

Congratulations boys!
Award Winners for Week 1 in the P-4 area

The Book Fair – Books for Everyone
When: Tuesday 30th July and Wednesday 31st July
Where: In the Library
The Book fair will be opened for business in the library before school, at recess and after school on both days. Books for all ages, bring your family and friends.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CARE
The Activities have been set for Term 3. Both activities will start the second week of term. 3:30pm – 4:30pm. (for 7 weeks)

Football – Monday with Tyler Fowler
Gymnastics – Wednesday with Val Riordon
(Gymnastics session has had all positions filled for Term 3)
If your child is interested in participating in these activities please collect an Active After School Form from the office.
**UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform shop will be open on the following days until the end of 2013.
- **Tuesday afternoon** – 1.00pm – 4.00pm
- **Thursday morning** 8.30am – 12.00pm

If these times do not suit a uniform order, with payment, can be left at the General Office and the order can be sent home with your child/children. Order forms can be obtained from the Office.

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**EMA**

The second payment for EMA is due in Term 3. If you are in receipt of a Health Care Card and have not applied for the EMA in 2013 please contact the General Office for an application. The Health Care Card must be valid on 15th July, 2013 and applications close on 2nd August, 2013.

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**SCHOOLKIDS BONUS PAYMENT**

**Who is eligible for the schoolkids bonus?**

If you are a parent or carer, you could be eligible for the Schoolkids Bonus if your child is undertaking primary or secondary studies and under 20 years of age, and you receive one of the following payment for your child:

- **Family Tax Benefit Part A, Youth Allowance, Disability Support Pension, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, Carer payment, Parenting Payment or Special Benefit. Veterans’ Children Education Scheme or Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme also qualify.**

If you’re a primary or secondary student, and under 20 years of age, you could be eligible if you receive one of the following payments for yourself:

- **Youth Allowance, Disability Support Pension, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, Carer Payment, Parenting Payment, or Special Benefit. Veterans’ Children Education Scheme and Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme also qualify.**

**When is eligibility determined?**

Eligibility is determined on **1 January** (for the January payment) and **30 June** (for the July payment) every year. These dates are known as ‘eligibility dates’. This means you need to be receiving one of the eligible payments above on 1 January and/or 30 June to receive a Schoolkids Bonus payment. For families who claim FBT Part A as a lump sum, your eligibility on 1 January and 30 June will be determined when your claim is assessed at the end of the financial year.

If asked by Centrelink or the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, you need to make sure your children’s or your education details are up-to-date by 31 December for the January payment of 29 June for the July payment in order to receive the Schoolkids Bonus payment as early as possible.

If you are not entitled to receive an eligible payment on 1 January or 30 June for any reason (e.g. your income was too high), you will not be entitled to Schoolkids Bonus for that payment period.

**How long do I have to claim an eligible payment and still receive a Schoolkids Bonus payment?**

If you receive Family Tax Benefit Part A, you have a maximum of one year from the end of the financial year in which the eligibility date occurs to make and update your child’s education details.

Students claiming income support or education allowances have a maximum or 13 weeks from the eligibility date to make a claim in order to receive Schoolkids Bonus.

If you would like further information go to australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus
Universities and TAFE Institutes hold annual Open Days for the public. They are an opportunity to visit, talk to staff and students, collect information and see facilities. As such, they are a fun way to gain a taste of university life, find out the information you need and narrow down your options. Open Days are generally held in Term 3 (August/September).

5 TIPS FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF OPEN DAYS

1) MAKE A PLAN
With so many open days happening at once you will need to plan well in advance, especially if you're considering attending multiple open days or need to book travel and accommodation.
First step is to create a shortlist of the institutions you are most interested in.
Note that some institutions' open day dates will conflict, which may mean that you need to conduct more research to decide which open day you would prefer to attend. Also note that institutions with multiple campuses generally hold campus open days on different dates, so if your preferred course is available at more than one campus it is a good idea to check out each one to find out which environment you prefer.

2) COME PREPARED
You will need to make a schedule for each open day so you know what time you need to be there, what you want to see and where you need to go. Print the institutions' open day program from their website and add to your schedule any information sessions you would like to attend (such as course and entry pathway seminars), noting time and location. Also schedule time to check out facilities you are interested in (such as student accommodation).
Find out parking and public transport information in advance.
Bring a family member or friend to keep you company and give you a second opinion.

3) TALK TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE
Don't be afraid to speak up at information sessions; this is a life-changing decision so make sure you don't leave with questions unanswered. Write down important information and grab pamphlets so you have the information handy when you're finalising your preferences.
It might pay to write down a list of questions in advance for each information session and make a list of things you want to find out about, such as student exchange or clubs.
Student guides will be milling about, so ask them questions too. Not only will they clue you in on all the best spots on campus, they will be able to honestly answer all your questions about what life at the institution is like from a student's perspective.

Take advantage of those around you, if there is anything you need clarified specific to your course (such as the availability of work placements or deferment options), don't be afraid to ask a staff member. It is much easier to address your questions now - especially if you are lodging your tertiary preferences later in the year. Make the most of the day to find out exactly what you need to know; speak to lecturers, tutors, career advisers and so on.

Questions you should be asking include:
What are the entry requirements and pathways available?
How flexible is course delivery?
When are course intakes?
How does the university ensure the employability of your graduates?
Are there any extra features in your program (internships, international study tours, industry projects, etc.)?
What types of careers do graduates go into?

4) EXPLORE THE CAMPUS
Check out the facilities that the campus offers and explore the buildings you will most likely be studying in. This is especially important for students studying courses that require them to use special lab or computer facilities as an integral part of their studies, such as design, IT, health sciences or science.
Check out the accommodation options available. This is a good chance to see what they actually look like and how close they are to the institution and the city.
Look beyond all the hype and balloons. Ask yourself: can I really see myself here? You want the university to have an atmosphere that will make you want to spend time there, rather than just attend your classes and head straight home. Whether you're after masses of landscaped lawns or on-campus galleries, gyms and cafés, it is important to choose a campus that suits you and will provide the experience you want.
Check out your transport options and do a trial run. If the campus is within driving distance, is there plenty of parking? Is it free or does it require a permit? If public transport is the way to go, figure out which forms are available, how frequent it is and which route to take.
5) ENJOY YOURSELF
Most importantly, make a day of it with your friends and family. Once you've found out what you need to know, enjoy the day!

Each year in August and September, tertiary institutions hold Open Days for the public to showcase what they can offer to future students.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY, 1300 275 228 www.acu.edu.au/251231
August dates: 11th Melbourne; 25th Ballarat

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY, 1300 334 733 www.deakin.edu.au/openday
August dates: 4th Warrnambool; 11th Geelong Waterfront and Waurn Ponds; 25th Melbourne Burwood.

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY, 1300 135 045 www.latrobe.edu.au/openday
August dates: 9th Shepparton; 14th Mildura; 18th Bendigo; 25th Melbourne; 30th Albury-Wodonga.

MONASH UNIVERSITY, 1800 666 274 http://monash.edu/openday/
August dates: 3rd Berwick, Gippsland & Peninsula; 4th Caulfield, Clayton & Parkville

RMIT, 03 9925 2260 www.rmit.edu.au/openday
August dates: 11th City, Brunswick and Bundoora

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY, 1300 275 794 www.swinburne.edu.au/openday
August dates: 4th Hawthorn

UNIVERSITY OF BALLARAT, 1300 225 527 www.ballarat.edu.au/openday
August dates: 25th Sunday

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, 1800 811 711 http://openday.unimelb.edu.au/
August dates: 18th Parkville Campus, Dookie Agricultural College & Victorian College of the Arts and Music

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA, 1300 363 864, www.utas.edu.au/open-day
August dates: 25th Hobart, Launceston, and Cradle Coast

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, 1300 842 846, www.vu.edu.au/openday
August dates: 25th Sunday

For information about Open days at other institutions go to www.vtac.edu.au/opendays

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National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2013
29th July – 4th August
www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au

2013 CALENDAR
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<td>Thurs 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Yr 3/4 Tower Hill Excursion</td>
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<td>School Council</td>
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<td>25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; – 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>State School Spectacular</td>
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<td>Mon 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Parent Association Meeting</td>
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<td>Mon 29 – Aug 2</td>
<td>Literacy Numeracy Week</td>
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<td>Tues 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Kinder Info Night – 7pm</td>
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<td>Wed 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Book Fair</td>
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<td>AUGUST</td>
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<td>Fri 2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Wed 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>‘OLIVER’ – Matinee 2pm</td>
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<td>Fri 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>‘OLIVER’ – Opening Night 6:30pm</td>
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<td>‘OLIVER’ – Theatre Night 7pm</td>
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<td>Fri 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>‘OLIVER’ – Supper Night 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Theatre Studies Excursion - Geelong</td>
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<td>Wed 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; – Fri Nov 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>VCE Exams</td>
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<td>Mon 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Start of Term 4</td>
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<td>Tues 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Australian Defence Force visit</td>
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<td>GWS Athletics - Ballarat</td>
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<td>Pupil Free Day – P-12</td>
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<td>Yr 5/6 Camp</td>
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<td>NOVEMBER</td>
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<td>Nov 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Mon 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Wed 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Last day for all students</td>
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