ARCHITECT OF THE FUTURE

Anthony of 6E wrote a letter to the College architect, Jenny, offering some fantastic suggestions in regards to the safety of staircase rails. Jenny and Anthony met to discuss his suggestions, leaving Jenny thoroughly impressed. She has suggested Anthony pursue a career in architecture.
Greetings,

I'd like to begin my first newsletter at Boronia K-12 College by thanking all staff, students and parents who have made me feel very welcome in this community. Whilst I have experienced a hectic beginning to Term 3 I've been fortunate to be provided with wonderful support by Kate Harnetty, Judy Triffett and Colin Davies.

It will continue to be a busy time as our building works on the Rangeview Campus slowly edge their way towards completion and we plan and undertake the substantial task of moving from our Mount View Campus (and moving rooms at Rangeview) by the end of the year. We are currently discussing the best ways to achieve this to minimise disruption for all.

Some parents in our community will be receiving 2014 Parent Opinion Surveys in the mail. Each year the College (and all government schools across Victoria) conducts this opinion survey in order to receive feedback from our parent community. The parent list we use is randomly generated by our computer system. All responses remain confidential and the survey is designed to protect the identity of the respondent. Your thoughts and opinions are important to us. Without your feedback, we find it difficult to know where you think we are performing well and where you believe there is room for improvement. If you are one of the lucky recipients, I encourage you to complete and return the survey to the College by Friday 1st August. The survey results are provided to our school by the Department later in the year.

Welcome to Leah Ashton who has joined us this term working in Level 3/4 and in the Quick Smart Literacy Program. Please note that there will be no sessions in QS Literacy for a few weeks while Leah undertakes some training in the program. Emily Philips has replaced Corrine Molloy in Level 1/2.

We have some exciting school activities appearing in the near future on the school calendar.

- On Thursday 17 July our Years 5 – 8 students getting together with their teachers and parents to discuss their progress so far at parent/teacher/student interviews being conducted from 4:00 – 7:00pm. All students are expected to attend with their parents and ensure they bring their portfolios with them. (I do realise this will have already occurred by the time you read this newsletter.)

- On Wednesday 6 August we celebrate ‘100 school days of Prep’ for our Prep students. The students have been asked to collect 100 of their favourite small things which will form part of a special assembly on the day

- On Thursday 7 August all Prep – Year 12 students are involved in our Athletics Sports Carnival, being conducted at Knox Athletics Track, Bunjil Way, Knoxfield. We will be seeking parent helpers for the day and all parents are encouraged to attend to cheer on our students in their endeavours.

- On Friday 8 August all College staff will be involved in professional learning for the day. This is a designated Student Free Day and students are not to attend school on this day.

I encourage you to introduce yourself and your children when you see me around the College.

Colin Davies returned this Term after two Terms on Long Service Leave. We welcome him back. He will be taking responsibility for the Kinder - Year 4 area of the College while Kate Harnetty will take responsibility for the Years 5 - 8 program.

Regards,

David Rose

College Principal

Mount View Campus Principal’s Report

Reports/Student Learning Conferences

Reports for students in Years 9 to 12 were posted home at the end of Term 2. Our next round of Student Learning Conferences for students in Years 9 to 12 will be on 19 August, in the middle of Term 3. More information will be sent home closer to the time, but you will notice that we have changed the timing of these conferences so they are earlier in the Term. We feel the information discussed will facilitate more timely feedback for senior students, who are completing coursework at the end of Term 3 and moving into revision/exams during term four. We want the feedback to be given in a time frame that allows for improvement or changes, and to confirm whether the student is on track for the end of the year. We also have a number of student programs operating in the last week of Term 3, which will take a considerable
amount of time and staffing resources. Interim reports will still be issued at the end of the Term, so students and parents can monitor progress and check whether improvements are being made. Students will be updating their Personal Learning goals in the next two weeks, following reflection on their Semester 1 reports, so please discuss the report with your child.

Parents of students in Year 7 and 8 at the Rangeview Campus can book an interview with their specialist teachers, based at the Mount View Campus on Tuesday 19 August using the PTO system if they wish to discuss their child's progress in specialist subjects.

Uniform
Just a reminder once again that anyone who is struggling to purchase winter uniform should see me for assistance as soon as possible! It is particularly important in this cold weather to ensure that your children have a jumper and/or jacket for the winter months. The microfiber jacket and blazer are good options for those students who have a reaction to wool, as these items are warm but softer on the skin.

Years 9 and 10 Parent Evening
We will hold an information evening on Tuesday 29 July for Year 9 and 10 students and parents. It is most important that everyone attends on this night as we will be discussing special programs for the students and also Careers/Pathways. Both these year levels have events coming up in Terms 3 and 4 (Year 10 WoW Week, Year 9 Connect Camp and City Experience) and it is vital that parents and students attend and hear the information first-hand and also take advantage of the opportunity to ask questions. A letter regarding this opportunity will be sent home soon.

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY
Our school is participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability. This Data Collection is taking place in government, Catholic and Independent schools across Australia, and will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students. This will enable Australian and State governments to better target support and resources in schools. This in turn will help schools give students with disability the support they need.

The Data Collection is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which describe a broad range of health and learning conditions for which schools are required to provide ‘reasonable adjustments’ to support students to participate on the same basis as other students.

The Data Collection will take place during Terms 2 and 3. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included, however, if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the Data Collection, you can opt-out by signing and returning the opt-out consent form. More information about the Data Collection is available on the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website at:


Judy Triffett
Mount View Campus Principal
What a fantastic Commonwealth Games Day we celebrated at Boronia K–12 College last Term. The school was full of green and gold, with everybody getting in the spirit. Students were lucky enough to meet Damien Birkenhead who will be representing Australia at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and Brooke Stratton who unfortunately had to pull out of the Commonwealth Games due to back problems just two days before the visit. Everyone in the Boronia K–12 College community would like to thank both athletes for taking time out of their busy training schedules to chat with students for two hours and then hanging around to do photos and autographs for another hour and a half. There were some great questions from staff and students, and both Brooke and Damien thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Remember they went to school and were just like Boronia K–12 College students. Through hard work and determination, we could one day have someone representing the country and the College on the national and international stage.
What's on in VCAL

Term 3 has begun in earnest! Both VCAL classes are busy working on a number of projects and this Term, students will be involved in two major events – Amazing Race and some will assist at the College’s Athletics Sports.

Student of the Week Award

Week 1: Jess 11V

Jess has begun the semester really strongly. She demonstrates maturity and responsibility in her classes and sets herself high standards to achieve, often completing more than is required in her work, exceeding teachers’ expectations. Jess has great organisational skills and manages her workload excellently.

Jess is currently negotiating a work placement for a week-long block, later this term, working with horses – which is her passion.

Term 2 Writing and Practical Purposes

At the end of last term, students in Senior/Intermediate VCAL completed a task which helped them meet their Writing for Practical Purposes outcome; students were to write a set of instructions in different formats, and to write instructions involving a task they have learned through their TAFE or VET course. Some really good pieces were written, including 'How to tack a horse', 'How to install a General Purpose Outlet' and 'How to lay a floor.'

This week, the class have been working on some tasks related to the Australian 'coming of age' film 'The Year My Voice Broke'. They are writing pieces that will contribute towards meeting the Writing for Self Expression outcome, and are to write as one of the main characters from the film. Several students have had some excellent ideas about how they might write, and have made a great start.

Highlights from the VCAL Strands:

Work Related Skills

Students in both VCAL classes are working on a project preparing for a job assisting at the College Athletics Sports in a couple of weeks. They are researching the requirements of a selected event – including how to organise it; measure performances; minimise potential hazards as well as communicating with students and other officials.

The Senior/Intermediate class is also working on their Tooltime presentations, where they have to research a particular piece of equipment in their industry of choice and demonstrate the correct way to use it and how hazards can be minimised to use it safely.

Personal Development Skills

The Senior/Intermediate class have finished their Community Leader’s research investigation and are in the middle of making their slideshow presentations to the class for assessment. They have had to undertake research into a number of Australian community leaders, giving their views on leadership and advice to other leaders on how to succeed. Jessie 12V is featured in the accompanying photo giving her presentation.

The Foundation class have just completed their Australian Citizenship task. The final part of this project was for students to undertake three citizenship practice tests (which prepare migrants for the real Australian citizenship test). Students were very surprised by their results – some of whom, didn’t pass! In their self-evaluation, they had to reflect on whether they thought they would make good Australian citizens.

All students have started preparations for this year’s Amazing Race around the local area, during which students have to negotiate trains and buses, to find various community and employment resources as well as complete challenges set by the Senior VCAL class – who are organising the event.

John Gove - VCAL Coordinator
The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.

Chaplain’s Spot

Ask Good Questions - Written by Nigel Lane
www.nigellane.com.au (used with permission)

When we are in a discussion with our child, if we ask good questions they will feel that we are interested and involved. This sense of self-worth that is created will itself become a motivating force in their life.

However there are positive and less positive ways to ask questions. Whenever possible avoid asking closed questions. A closed question is one that can be answered with a yes or a no or a single word reply. Avoid these as they don’t progress the discussion and don’t draw out further information. For example: ‘Did you enjoy school today?’ will give less pertinent information than asking ‘What did you enjoy about school today?’

Ask curiosity questions. ‘Can you tell me more about that?’ ‘That’s interesting, what else do you know about that?’ These will encourage further exploration and can be particularly useful when talking about something they have learnt during the day.

I often say. ‘Wow, I don’t know much about that. Help me to understand it better’. The results are often amazing. The question implies that they are the expert, the teacher, the guru and I am the student. The role reversal grants them a higher status and makes them feel really good about themselves.

Avoid the temptation to jump in and solve the problem or give help as it might not be helpful and they might not want help. Rather they might prefer to struggle with the issue and find their own solution. A key question that will help this, is ‘Would you like my help with this?’ As an aside try and avoid questions beginning with why. In our culture those questions sometimes carry an implied criticism –‘Why are you wearing that today’ seems to state that they shouldn’t be.

My featured book this week is [just for fun] “101 benefits of baldness” by Waring & Smyth. If your head's natural covering is sparse, you might enjoy some of the quotes and pictures in this little book. Or perhaps it might be a fun book for Father’s Day. You might like to check booko.com.au to see where it can be bought.

Alan Silverwood
Chaplain
silverwood.alan.a@edumail.vic.gov.au
Pastoral care for our community, with issues of emotional, financial, spiritual, physical nature.

The Chaplaincy program is funded through the Federal Government & Community support. This is a voluntary program in our school community.

Parents’ Club

Ferntree Gully Nissan: Great Community Raffle 2014
Get your tickets back! We are proud to be part of this great opportunity and 100% of sales are returned to the school.
Please return your sold tickets and monies or unsold tickets as soon as possible.

Due Date: Thursday 31 July 2014

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
Selling for only $65, the 2014 | 2015 Melbourne Entertain-
ment™ Membership is packed with over $20,000 worth of
valuable offers you can use right away, valid up until 1
June 2015!

Plus, 20% of all purchases contributes to landscaping for the
Early Learning Centre & literacy & numeracy re-
sources for Preps -12! The more we sell, the more we raise
– so please forward this email to your family and friends!

CLICK HERE TO BUY NOW!

WHOLE SCHOOL CHOCOLATE DRIVE
The Boronia K-12 College Cadbury Chocolate Drive chocolates will start to be distributed next week, if you don't wish to receive a box please return your notice as soon as possible.

Each box will contain a variety of Caramellos, Freddos, white, Popping Candy, 100s and 1000s chocolate and twin packs of Peppermint and Strawberry). Each item has a selling price of $1.00.

**If you have not indicated that your do not wish to receive a box of chocolates, a box will be sent home with your youngest child.

Notices

At the current time, Boronia K-12 College does not have a second hand uniform shop. However, for the time being we have the following items available for sale:

• x1 Size 16 Jumper (Yrs. 5 - 9)
• x1 Size 28 Gray Shorts
• x2 Size 14 White Shirts (Yrs. 5 - 12)
THE WIZARD OF OZ

BORONIA K-12 COLLEGE
Directed by Wayne Robinson

Tickets on sale as of 4pm Friday 6 June
Adults $20 | Concession $15
Visit the College Website or click here to book

Thursday 28 August : 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Friday 29 August : 7.30pm - 10.30pm
Saturday 30 August : Matinee 2.30pm - 5.30pm
Saturday 30 August : 7.30pm - 10.30pm
BORONIA
K-12 COLLEGE

Bogan Bingo

Comb those mullets and dust off the flannelette....
Bogan Bingo is coming to Boronia K-12 College

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Get your table of up to 10 together and book online at

www.trybooking.com/91182

or visit the College Website.

$20.00 per person

Make sure you jump start the Torana early, as you need to be at Boronia K-12 on Saturday 9th of August by 7.30pm for 8.00pm start

Don't forget to dress in your best bogan gear, practice your air guitar and get ready for a comedy game show evening with gold coin games and silent auction.

This is an adult only event - bring your own drinks and nibbles