EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

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MOUNT VIEW CAMPUS PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

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SHINE BRIGHT MARKET

On Tuesday 1 April a group of our Middle Years students organised the ‘Shine Bright Market’. With many activities organised, including an out of uniform day, the group of students involved raised money for a variety of charity and welfare organisations.
Executive Principal’s Report

END OF TERM 1

Congratulations to all members of our College community for the efforts they have made during what has been a very busy Term 1, in particular this last week of term. At the time of my writing this piece, we have the Bright Lights Concert and the College Cross Country run about to occur so feedback on both events will probably be incorporated into the newsletter at the end of Week One in Term 2. We have had a significant number of new students commence with us at the beginning of the year and I am generally pleased as to how they have assimilated into our College. We have had a relatively small number of issues with some students who have found it difficult to adapt to College expectations and we are working with these students and their families to support them successfully through this process. I hope everyone is able to have a good break and come back recharged for an exciting Term 2 of teaching and learning at Boronia K-12 College.

STUDENT PROGRESS

Parent Student Teacher interviews are scheduled for Monday 28 April for students in Years 9 – 12 at the Mount View Campus between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. These meetings need to be booked online through the College website. For students in Years Prep to Year 7, parents should expect contact from the Mentor or classroom teachers either late this term or early next term to discuss student progress. Of course many parents are already in regular contact with the classroom teachers, particularly in Years Prep to Year 4, so if this is the case, further contact may not be made unless it is essential. Parents of students in year 8 will receive a snap shot of student progress through an interim report which will be posted home.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Many thanks again to all parents for their ongoing support in this area. A reminder that when driving through the College grounds, parents should not exceed 10kmh. We have all seen the Traffic Accident Commission advertisements on television encouraging drivers to “take off 5”. I encourage parents to monitor their speed when driving through the grounds. We do not want an accident. We hope to have signage erected in the Albert Avenue entrance over the course of the holiday break.

UNIFORM

A reminder to all parents to be well prepared for the winter months as far as uniform is concerned and that this is the last year of transition from the old uniform to the new uniform. If students are in the new uniform they need to be in it totally, not partially. This applies especially to black leather shoes and grey or white socks. Black socks are not part of our uniform. All students should have a College jumper or jacket and if there are any problems in this area, parents are encouraged to contact the relevant Campus Principal to discuss options for support. If a student is out of uniform for whatever reason, a note should be provided. A reminder also that all items of uniform need to be labelled with the student’s name. It is much easier to return items of uniform to students if they have their name on the item of uniform.

Ross Beevege
Executive Principal

Mount View Campus Principal’s Report

NAPLAN Year 9

Parents of students in year 9 should note that the NAPLAN tests will be conducted on 13, 14 and 15 May 2014. Please note that all students in year 9 will need a working calculator for the Numeracy tests.

While it is important that we do not cause stress about NAPLAN, students will undertake the tests under exam conditions and it is vital that you speak to your child about the importance of doing his/her best and making full use of the allocated time. It is also essential that students practise the skill of concentrating on a task for an extended period of time, and this is something that can be reinforced at home through quiet reading, a writing task or basic numeracy tasks such as adding the cost of shopping items. You will soon receive a letter with a more detailed description of NAPLAN. Please read the letter carefully and ensure that your child knows what is expected on these days. Remember to emphasise to your child that the testing assesses skills that are developed over time in literacy and numeracy, and is not a ‘pass or fail’ test but an indication of how your child is progressing against national standards. An individual NAPLAN report will be provided to each parent later in the year.

If you have questions about the tests, please ring me for more information. In special circumstances a parent may choose to withdraw their child from the tests. This must be discussed with me first, so please contact me well in advance of the NAPLAN tests if you wish to investigate this pathway.

If you have any other questions about NAPLAN, please ring me on 9760 5900.

Denise Phillpotts’ Retirement

Denise has been a member of staff at Mount View for many years, working as a Food Technology Assistant in our busy Food area. She has worked with and formed close relationships with many of us over this period, being a dream of a
colleague due to her hard-working, practical and unflappable approach. We will miss Denise, but know that she will have a terrific retirement and will be able to pursue her many hobbies full time, rather than fitting them in around work. Denise is a very talented, artistic person who creates heirloom quality baby wear and blankets, and is a very keen builder and landscape artist, doing things the rest of us can only dream of. We are very grateful for her years with the College and wish her many adventures in her retirement.

Elevate Years 11 and 12

Our Year 11 and 12 students, along with senior students from Sherbrooke Community School, participated in the Elevate Program yesterday. They listened to speakers and were led through a range of activities aimed at developing students to their full potential. Elevate takes a realistic and relevant approach in a presentation that allows the students to recognise and understand their own behaviours in regard to school work and study. The entertaining, non-threatening style of encouraging them to reflect on their approach inspires students to engage in the presentation, to refocus on their goals and develop new strategies to school work and study.

Interim Reports/Student Learning Conferences

Student Learning Conferences for years 9 to 12 will be held on Monday 28 April 2014 in the eSpace. Please note that this is the second week of the term. We will again use the on-line booking system, but parents will be issued with a new code for access. You will receive your child’s interim report, student booking code and a procedural letter at the end of this term and you will be able to access the on line booking system during the holidays. Please note that you may receive two access codes in your envelope. If you need two copies you will therefore have them. If you only need one code, just use either one to make your bookings. It is essential that we see as many families and students as possible, as we need to work in a three-way partnership to enable your child to take responsibility for his/her learning and to achieve success with the support and guidance of their parents and teachers.

Judy Triffett
Mount View Campus Principal

Study Sensei for our Senior Students

On Tuesday 1 April, Elevate Education and Sherbrooke Community School joined our Year 11 and 12 VCE students for a session called Study Sensei.

In this session Holly from Elevate discussed with students from both schools about what they need to do to achieve their highest ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) at the end of their Year 12 year. Elevate provide presenters who are young university students who themselves gained an ATAR above 90. Our presenter Holly had an ATAR of 95.

Study Sensei is probably my favourite of the Elevate sessions as it gives students some really helpful and practical ideas on how to study best in their final VCE year.

In Study Sensei there is focus on three levels - Learn, Master and Create. Everyone starts at the bottom level, everyone can learn the concepts for their subject. From there you have to master what you have learnt and be able to apply it to different situations. To gain the highest marks you have to be creative and stand out from the crowd in exam answers.

Holly used an analogy about Justin Bieber. Anyone can learn his songs, some will master his dance steps while singing too, but only a few will be creative enough to create a song and dance moves that Justin Bieber will want to use himself.

Students from both Boronia K-12 College and Sherbrooke Community School were engaging participants in answering questions and interacting with Holly. Many of them will have picked up helpful tips on how they should focus their studies over this Easter holiday break to be best placed for a top ATAR when they return in Term 2. However, they need to take these practical ideas and apply them for the remainder of the year (and into next if they are a Year 11 student).

So Year 11 and Year 12s: over the holidays get out those coloured pens and highlighters, start your summary notes (remember short and sweet - maximum of 5 words) and start revising. Google information to help you understand those concepts you find confusing. Get onto the Elevate site and download the helpful study resources they have for you and start your collection of practice exam papers.

Rachel Gardiner - Senior Program Leader
Year 8 Farewell

Tiia 8B is a student from Finland who came to live in Australia seven months ago. We feel lucky that out of all the schools Tiia could have gone to, she picked Boronia K-12 College.

She said that she very much enjoyed her time here. All of our students were very nice and helpful to her. She is going to miss her friends that she made during her time here. Tiia has said she will miss her amazing teachers Mr Birrell, Ms Cugliandro, Mrs Kowalczuk, Mr Bevege and last but not least Ms Harnetty.

Tiia is leaving to return to Finland in the last week of Term 1. On Friday 27 March all Year 8s threw a party for Tiia as a way of saying thankyou and goodbye. We’re all going to miss Tiia and hope she will one day come back to visit.

By Curtis 8B, Troy 8B, Jayden 8B

Year 8 Mice Project

Over the past term the Year 8s have been working with mice. Learning about the mice’s systems and organs. A couple of activities included; building an obstacle course and timing and observing the mice as they went through the course. Another activity was to find the mice’s food preferences, so students bought different food types to see what the mice liked and disliked. Personally I enjoyed both the activities and found them very interesting and have loved working with mice.

Joshua 8B

Attendance

We are impressed with the amount of parents who are notifying the College if their child is absent, either by phone or reply SMS through our Messageyou Service. Although, often the SMS lacks the vital information needed. We therefore ask all families when replying via SMS, to please clearly state your child/children’s name, year level and reason for absence. This will assist us greatly when entering the absent notification.

Attendance Officer

From the General Office

Return of Notices & Payments

The College asks that all notices that require payment are only returned to the General Office with payment attached.

If paying by EFTPOS please hand the notice to the Office when the payment is made.

If you wish to pay via credit card (Visa or MasterCard only), please enclose the following details on a piece of paper in an envelope alongside the signed permission slip:

Card Number, Expiry Date, Name of Cardholder.

College Newsletter

A reminder to parents and guardians that the College Newsletter is no longer distributed in the classroom. Those who wish to obtain a hard copy of the newsletter must collect one from the General Office.

Lost Property

The General Office often accumulates a small collection of lost property. These items are stored in a labelled cupboard outside of the Sick Bay. We ask that parents and guardians ensure that all personal belongings are clearly labelled with your child’s full name. Named items are easily returned to their owners. Please notify the office staff before accessing the lost property cupboard.

Early Departures from School

We urge parents, where possible, to organise appointments outside of school hours or during school holidays. When parents arrive to collect students early, without prior notice, this has an impact on the flow of work in the General Office and, if a PA announcement has to be made, interrupts every class across the college.

If it is unavoidable and you must collect your child early please send a note in the morning with your child to give to their teacher outlining what time they need to be dismissed from class and sent to the office for collection.

Otherwise, if something comes up during the day please contact the office and arrangements will be made to have your child ready for collection. If parents arrive without prior warning they may have to wait patiently until their child can be brought to the general office.
What’s on in VCAL

It’s been a long term and students have worked on a lot of tasks, in all strands of VCAL. Their display folders are full and everyone is looking forward to a well-earned break.

Student of the Week Award

Week 7: Jasmine 12V

Jas has worked consistently in class – is up to date with her work, and producing work of a high standard in all subjects. She has a mature, purposeful approach and manages her time in class very well. Jas has a strong sense of community and is involved in many activities, actively supports her class mates, and the school program.

She is studying Tourism for her VET course and in her journal, she writes about the interesting and varied activities they undertake.

Congratulations Jas!

Week 8: Eden 10V

Eden is beginning to shine! She is a mature, well-mannered and hardworking student who always puts in her best effort. In class her work is up to date and of a good standard and she participates in discussions and group activities – often displaying her developing leadership qualities.

In her VET course, Eden is studying Children’s Services and from her journal and verbal reports, she is really enjoying the variety of experiences undertaken as a part of her course. With some guidance from Mr Knowles, she has shown initiative and drive in seeking and securing a work placement, which is a requirement of her VET course and will also complement her class work.

Well done Eden!

Week 9: Hailey 11V

Hailey has stepped up her efforts in all classes, to finish off the term on a high. She shows initiative and great self-management by getting on with her project work and checking her progress with her teachers and has already planned homework tasks to do over the break.

She continues to contribute to the college community with her ongoing involvement in sport, as well as in her Year 11 leadership role.

Congratulations Hailey!

Highlights from the VCAL Strands:

Work Related Skills

Senior/Intermediate students have been working on the following tasks in WRS:

1. Safe@work modules for the commencement of their Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) every Friday.
2. Their Career Action Plan (CAPs) and having a meeting with Mr. Knowles to discuss their CAPs and future options post year 12.
3. Safety Tips presentation aimed at Foundation VCAL students. Students completed a power point presentation and brochure for the FVCAL students.
4. Employability Skills discussion in relation to their own work placement &/or part time job and completion of handout with examples of the 8 employability skills.

The Foundation/Intermediate students have just completed their ‘My Industry’ investigation projects and have constructed a resume to use for seeking a work placement. They are now working on identifying hazards in the workplace.

Personal Development Skills

Both classes are working on their cultural diversity projects – the Foundation/Intermediate students are in the middle of individual project work on a multicultural Australian society and will soon begin to prepare for a group task.

The Senior/Intermediate students are individually researching their family’s cultural heritage and will investigate another culture as well. They will then combine all their research into a group task – planning an event showcasing the cultures they have investigated.
Numeracy Skills

Students are working on their Share House Project – where they have to imagine they have left school and are fully employed and living with friends and responsible for the day to day running of their households. Students are realising how expensive living in the modern world is and are having to prioritise living and entertaining expenses. One part of the project involves designing and constructing a model of their houses with a focus on their bedrooms which is proving to be another challenge.

The previous project was to design a garden and plot the layout on a scaled diagram.

Literacy Skills

Both classes are winding up work on plays – Cosi for the Senior/Intermediates and Black Rock for the Foundation/Intermediates. It has been a very entertaining time for Ms Mahler and Ms Kimpton respectively – with some great performances, as well as the work undertaken to study both plays.

John Gove
VCAL Coordinator

Music News

Year 7 and 8 Instrumental Music Guitar and Percussion students gave a wonderful demonstration of their new skills at Open Night in the Performing Arts Centre. Working with their guitar teacher, Dave Hartney, students demonstrated some great ensemble work and they are clearly enjoying their lessons each week. We can’t wait to hear what these students will perform in our first music concert next term!

Our VCE music students held a workshop with the our singing teacher, Rebecca Russell, showcasing some of their VCE music program for 2014. Students are busy preparing a 30 minute band set for their final VCE assessment later in the year. It was fantastic to see all of our senior music students wanting to be involved in Open Night and sharing their skills with the younger students. Great effort by all!

YEAR 7-12 INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS:
Singing, Guitar, Drumkit, Piano (Keyboard)

We are looking for some enthusiastic students to have a go at learning guitar, piano, singing and drumkit through our Year 7-12 Instrumental Program. Students can still begin in Term 2 and will pay an adjusted fee. Students receive a 30 minute lesson each week during school time, plus have opportunities to play in group ensembles and concerts. Lesson times rotate each week. Our specialist music teachers are highly qualified to teach beginning through to VCE students. Limited places available. Please see Ms Royle or collect an enrolment form from the General Office.

Year 7 and 8 Singing Group

In Term 2 we will launch a vocal group for keen Year 7 and 8 vocalists. The group will be directed by our singing teacher, Rebecca Russell, on selected Monday lunchtimes. We are looking for at least six singers to join this group and we invite all interested students, including those who just want to sing for fun (boys and girls!!). All vocal students who learn through the Instrumental Program will be part of this group, and should bring along some of their singing friends!

Extra Note: We are searching for a really good name for this group, so if you think of something great over the holidays, please let Ms Royle or Ms Russell know. We’ll consider most suggestions.

Jenny Royle
Year 7 –12 Music Coordinator
Building Positive Families

Our family used to receive the Readers’ Digest for years. Here are some gems regarding parenting and families. You may not agree with them all. How many can you tick off as a ‘yes’ in your family? Perhaps you could work on some during the holidays.

- Accept each other as you are - Acknowledge their feelings - Affection - Bedtime story
- Commitment to a spiritual lifestyle - Consequences appropriate for actions - Control the electronics
- Deal with crises in a positive manner - Design a challenging family project - Develop rituals
- Discipline early - Don’t get carried away with “self-esteem”. - Don’t let distance come between you - Don’t put your child down - Express appreciation for each other
- Get to know one another - Good communication patterns
- Know what your child is up to - Let them grow at their own pace
- Make dinnertime a family affair - Make time to be together
- Play games together - Provide positive reinforcement - Resilience
- Set limits - Sharing activities - Share problems - Share your work and school lives [appropriate levels]
- Stay married - Strong sense of commitment - Support - Tune in to your child’s temperament

“7 things smart parents never say”

- You should have done it this way – let them discover that & work with them
- You’re not going to wear that? – teasing carries over into adulthood
- You don’t mean that – empathise with their feelings
- That’s the most beautiful picture I’ve ever seen – be realistic in praise
- You’re a Wildman – most children believe what parents say & grow into it fully
- You’re cruising for a bruising – replace threats with promises, to encourage

Remember

You can’t do everything right
It’s futile to look back – or ahead
You’re not always popular

www.parentingpositively.com.au – a quarterly newsletter is available via email.

Alan Silverwood
Chaplain
silverwood.alan.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

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

Annual College Production

THE WIZARD OF OZ
Auditions Update

We will be organising meetings for parents who are interested in helping out in areas of costumes, props, sets, marketing, program design, catering & technical aspects of the show. The first of these will be early in Term 2.

Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays & Fridays 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm. There will also be some Sunday rehearsals. Additional singing rehearsals will be held during lunchtimes. Students will not be required at all rehearsals. A schedule will be published in the newsletter each week with at least two weeks’ notice of who is required.

Performances will be held at the end of August with three shows on 28, 29, 30 August (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) nights.

Wayne Robinson
Director

The College will not accept legal liability in relation to any advertisements which appear in this newsletter.
Grade 5/6 Winter Sports Round 2.

Well done to the Grade 5/6 students who played their second game of winter sports this past Friday against Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School. Even though we came away with mixed results, every student was respectful, gave their best effort, and enjoyed the day.

Both boys and girls soccer teams gave their best effort but unfortunately had a loss with the boys losing 5 – 0 and the girls going down 4 – 0. Mixed results in our netball games with the girls fighting for all four quarters but unluckily went down in the end 13 – 4 and our mixed team had another good win 50 – 7. Both T-ball teams were lucky enough to be the first to host T-Ball on the new oval. Both teams were great sports and worked so well as a team, helping them both to a win with the boys winning 15 – 9 and the girls getting home in a close one 17 – 15. A big thank you to Lakiya, a Grade 4, who filled in for the girls T-Ball team. She was asked to play 5 minutes before the game and was a fantastic team member, getting a few hits and even getting a run home.

Well done to this weeks captains who showed fantastic leadership and helped the team all work together and to the parents who helped on the day as well. We are all looking forward to getting back into the games next Term.

ACTIVE APRIL

app.activeapril.vic.gov.au/login

It is now April but it’s not too late to get involved… Register for the Premiers Active April Challenge, get active and reap the rewards! Once you have registered you can then join our College team.

Team Name: boroniak12  Team ID: boroniak12

Adidas School Fun Run

ONLINE FUNDRAISING NOW AVAILABLE!

Increase your fundraising efforts by registering for ONLINE FUNDRAISING. Log onto www.schoolfunrun.com.au/

Create your profile and start fundraising today. Your friends and family can now make donations easily. All funds should be collected and returned to college no later than Friday 2 May, 2014. Good luck!

TERM 2 SECONDARY SPORT

We are looking at starting regular training sessions for students interested in competing at interschool sport next term so we can develop some strong and competitive teams. If any parents, students or staff are interested in helping out with any sports in particular please contact Ms Rhonda McMillan early in Term 2.

Upcoming sports on offer: (team entries subject to student interest and commitment)

- Senior Round Robin Day - Tuesday 20 May - Table Tennis, Netball (boys/girls), Soccer, Badminton, Hockey
- Senior Basketball - Friday 30 May
- Interschool Cross Country - Top 10 competitors from each age group at our College Cross Country qualify for the next level.
- Year 7, 8 and Intermediate (Year 9/10) Sport Round Robin days - Soccer, Football, Netball, Badminton

A reminder for PE classes - we are learning about the human body in Term 2 (muscles and bones)

We hope you have a safe and active holiday break! - The P.E Department
Parents' Club

What a term and such a busy end! Parents' Club would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for your support in our activities this term. With our efforts combined across the entire Boronia K-12 College, with all campuses and year levels working together we anticipate a big year ahead.

School Banking

Congratulations Boronia K-12 College on your fantastic banking this term. We have lots of regular bankers that are working their way to some wonderful rewards. Please remember that the first Monday of Term 2 is Easter Monday, but we will be collecting your banking on Tuesday 22 April.

Easter Egg Donations

Thank you very much to the community for your generous donations towards the Annual Easter Raffle. These items have been transformed into chocolate filled hampers ready for drawing at the end of Term Assembly on Friday 4 April. Don’t be concerned if you can’t make the assembly, prizes will be sent home with children or winners will be notified. Good luck!

Hot Cross Bun Drive

Thank you to the families who participated in this drive. 148 packets of freshly locally baked Hot Cross Buns were distributed to those who ordered on Thursday 3 April.

Adidas School Fun Run

Don’t forget to get your sponsorships for the School Fun Run, to be held early Term 2, and remember you can also fundraise online. Just register at schoolfun-run.com.au, share your online fundraising link and then friends and relatives can donate online. Students can also track their progress! Collected donations are due back by Friday 2 May. Raised funds will be used to purchase equipment required for major College events and sports days, including sun shelters and walkie talkies.

We are looking forward to an action packed Term 2.

If you are interested in assisting us, look out for meetings or cries for assistance advertised in the College Newsletter.

The Parents’ Club

SCHOOL BANKING REMINDER

Don’t forget that MONDAY is School Banking day! One of our Student Banking Coordinators will be situated in the Rangeview Campus Conference Room each Monday from 2.30 pm onwards.

FAIRHILLS DANCE COMPETITION

Interested students from Year 5 to Year 12 please ask the General Office for a notice with more information.

Students at the Rangeview Campus can also see Miss Phillips for more information.

MATHLETICS

The Boronia K-12 College Mathletics program is up and running. Visit the below link and sign in to get started!


It is available at any point over the school holidays and throughout the year. Please encourage your child to log in and get involved.

Your child’s login details were distributed earlier in the year by their classroom teacher.