Honesty High Expectations Perseverance Safety Respect

Principal's Report
Welcome to the 2015 school year. The staff and I look forward to working with you throughout the year to support each student to do their best.

We have started with our new Year 7 students smoothly transitioning into their new school and getting to know new teachers and students. Congratulations to them for their positive start in all their classes.

One of our values is high expectations. We want the best outcomes for all our students and this means being ready to learn in all classes. This requires students to be on time to class, have all the necessary equipment and be actively involved in their learning. We will support students who need to work on their ability to be ready to learn, however, we anticipate that families will work with us to ensure that this is addressed.

One of our priorities for our students is to give them the opportunity to improve their outcomes in VCE and VCAL so that they have positive career choices when leaving us at the end of Year 12. We have planned for each class to be working at a high level, to help give them every opportunity for the best results. This has meant that all holiday homework was expected to be completed, ready for the next level of work in all classes. This is an expectation of students across the state undertaking senior studies.

The students who were sent home to finish work received a clear message of the expectations of the college. If students find the work difficult, then it is most important to attempt it and then seek support from their teachers during class time, break time and Study Hall. I would like to thank the staff that made themselves available for the number of students who needed support in completing the homework during their holidays. Congratulations to the students who were well prepared for their classes.

During March, parents are invited to take a tour of the college and sit with other leaders and myself to discuss our programs and processes at our college. During the tour you will have the opportunity to see your children working in classes and view all the building works that have occurred over the past year. A letter inviting all families will be sent shortly.

We are always looking at improving our practices at the college and value the feedback of our school community. There are many ways that you can be involved in the college and strengthen the partnership between families and the school. Parents and Friends Association are always looking for families to join their group.

College Council is another terrific way of being involved in the improvement of the college. College Council elections are open. If you are interested in joining the College Council or would like further information on how you can be involved, then please see the Business Manager Alan Dennis, for information or an application form.

Sandra Eglezos
Principal
Welcome back to our Senior School families for the start of the 2015 Academic Year at Kurunjang Secondary College. We hope our families have had a restful and joyous break and that our students are now prepared for the upcoming year.

For all our Senior School families, the members of the Senior School Team for 2015 are:
Head of Senior School: Ms. Caroline Torode
VCE Coordinator: Ms. Monique Brodie
VCAL Coordinator: Mrs. Marie Baker
VET Coordinator: Ms. Nicole Hardham (Term One) & Mrs. Rose Lewanski
Year 10 Coordinator: Ms. Emma Patchett
Careers Practitioners: Mrs. Maria Cutajar & Ms. Lucy Taylor
Assistant Principal (Senior School): Ms. Aylin Gökmen

The Senior School Home Group Teachers for 2015 are:
12A: Mr. J. Geros  11A: Ms. E. Hughes  10A: Ms. A. Kaur
12B: Mrs. L. Sinclair  11B: Mr. D. Snape  10B: Mr. R. Thynne
12C: Mr. G. Hassan  11C: Mrs. J. Sciberras  10C: Ms. B. Cole
12D: Mr. J. Costa  11D: Ms. W. Wilson  10D: Mr. N. Elbourne
12E: Ms. L. Salter  11E: Ms. K. Ryan  10E: Ms. S. Potts
11F: Ms. C. Foster  10F: Mr. D. Homburg

As you’re aware, any initial contact (especially notes and Medical Certificates for absences) should be made via the Home Group Teachers. The Senior School Team are available to assist with other concerns regarding your child’s academic provision.

**HOLIDAY HOMEWORK**

As our College community would be aware, a number of our Year 11 and 12 students were sent home at the beginning of this Term for not completing their Holiday Homework. This was communicated to both our students and parent community via assemblies and letters towards the end of 2014.

The purpose of homework, at any year level, is not to finish classwork that should have been completed during class time. Rather, homework should be activities and tasks that deepen students’ learning and understanding. With regards to VCE and VCAL, the completion of all homework and additional study is an integral component to ensure your child experiences success by further practicing the content and skills taught in class.

Students who had completed their Holiday Homework should be proud and feel accomplished as for many of our students, it was a good start to their VCE or VCAL year. Well done!

Students who had not completed their Holiday Homework were sent home and parents were contacted; however, they were provided support by the College with the extra photocopying of resources and the offer of assistance of after school hours in the Year 12 Study Centre. If a student still hasn’t completed their Holiday Homework, further follow up with parental meetings will occur.

We appreciate the support our parents have given our College by assisting and reminding their child to complete their Holiday Homework. The support from many of our families with regards to sending students who had not completed their homework was mostly positive. The partnership between parents and their child’s College is paramount to ensuring student success and achievement.

At Kurunjang Secondary College, we have high expectations. We want to thank you for your support.

**UNIFORM**

A reminder to Senior School students that they are required to attend the College in full College Uniform every day. The College Uniform must be worn in a manner that reflects a positive image of our College in the broader community and to the Junior Students.

With regards to the colour of girls’ socks – our College Uniform states that Girls’ socks are to be White in Summer and Navy in Winter.
Note: Summer is Terms One and Four, with Winter being Terms Two and Three. This is not a change to our College Uniform Policy, rather a clarification for our families.

For a copy of the College Uniform policy, please see the College website or speak with the Head of Senior School. Please note, Senior Students who are not in full College Uniform, will be sent home to change and will be allowed in classes once they are in full uniform. Notes are not accepted unless there are exceptional circumstances.

YEAR 12 VCE PARENT INFORMATION EVENING – WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

Year 12 Parents and Students are invited to our Information Evening on Wednesday 18 February, starting at 6:45pm in the Year 12 Study Centre. Information will be provided regarding supporting your child through this very important final year.

VCAL PARENT INFORMATION EVENING – WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY

All of our VCAL families are welcome to attend an Information Evening on Wednesday 25 February, starting at 6:45pm in the Year 12 Study Centre.

YEAR 10 AND 11 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING – MONDAY 2 MARCH

Year 10 and 11 families are invited to attend the Information Evening on Monday 2 March in the Year 12 Study Centre, starting at 6:45pm. The purpose of the evening is to introduce the Senior School team and teachers and provide study support and information regarding Year 10 and VCE for 2015.

YEAR 12 VCE SEPTEMBER HOLIDAY PRACTICE EXAMS

A note to our Year 12 VCE families, all students are required to participate in the September Practice Exam Period. To assist with holiday planning and family commitments, the September Holiday Practice Exam period will take place from Monday 21 September – Friday 25 September. Students will be given an examination timetable for the Practice Exams in August. If there are any queries, contact the Senior School directly.

STUDY CENTRE AVAILABLE AFTER SCHOOL

A reminder to all our families that the Year 12 Study Centre is available to all our Senior School students until 5:00pm every evening for the use of studying.

Extra teacher support for SACs and Homework will be available in the Study Centre until 4:15pm on Mondays and Thursdays.

Ms. Caroline Torode  
Head of Senior School

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA

Proof of Concession Entitlement

All Students aged 17 years and over, or those requiring a half yearly or Student Pass (regardless of age) are required to obtain a 2015 Victorian Public Transport Student Concession Card as proof of their concession entitlement. Application forms can be obtained at all metropolitan train stations or online at ptv.vic.gov.au
SCHOOL PHOTOS

School Photos will be taken on Thursday 26th February. Students are to be dressed in correct school uniform on the day. To order photos they can either follow the instructions on the form provided to order online or bring in the completed form on the day and give to Arthur Reed Photos.

VCAL INFORMATION NIGHT

Year 11 and 12 VCAL Information Night will be held on the 25/2/15. Please keep this date free. Look forward to seeing you there. Thanks.

Marie Baker
VCAL Coordinator.

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

Last year more Kurunjang students than ever represented the school at interschool sport. We had six teams, in 2014, win through the local Division round robin competition days against other Melton, Sunbury, Gisborne & Bacchus Marsh schools and go on to present the school and our Western Cluster at Regional competitions. This was the most successful year since 2008 for the college in team sports. Kurunjang was also represented by students at the State finals for Swimming and Athletics in 2014 by Jasmine Basanko, Jade Wilson & Faustina Maae.

In 2015 teams will be training more often and sometimes before and afterschool. Students will need to pay close attention to the student bulletin and Sports notice boards for information about specific teams, playing dates and training information.

Upcoming Events:
- Senior Boys Cricket - Thursday 12th Feb
- House Swimming Carnival - Monday 23rd Feb
- Inter Boys Cricket - Monday 16th March

Tom Cullum
HAPE Area Leader
Sports Coordinator
**LOCKERS**

Kurunjang Secondary College is happy to announce that this year, every student at the school will be supplied with a locker. This means that no student will be allowed to have their school bag with them during class time. However, due to unforeseen circumstances not all lockers will be available at the start of term one as they are still under construction.

Students who are still awaiting a locker allocation are able to have their bags with them for class until the completion of the locker bays.

Please be aware that all students must use a school lock which will be provided. Any lockers that are found with a non-school lock will be removed. These locks will be distributed to students in their first week back.

The cost of the locker for 2015 will be: $20 Bond, $20 yearly hire. The school lock has become a part of the bond fee.

Thankyou for your support in our transition to a safer and orderly school environment.

---

**TWITTER**

*Follow us on Twitter*

As you are aware, many families use social media to help support their busy lives. At Kurunjang we recognise that social media can be helpful in sharing good news about the college and celebrating achievements throughout the year.

Therefore, why not take the opportunity to “follow us” on twitter? By following the @Kurunjang_SC account you will be able to benefit from a range of short stories and features that also appear on the College’s website!

---

**TAX FILE NUMBER**

*Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015*

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

*How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015*

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN. Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on
**SOCIAL WORKER**

Hi, my name is Chelsea Misiti and I am the Social Worker. Working with young people has been a passion of mine for many years. It is my role to assist students and families at KSC by providing one on one counselling, group sessions related to specific topics and overall assist students with issues that may arise whilst completing their education at KSC.

Please feel free to come say hi and just introduce yourself. I can be contacted on (school number) and can be found in the welfare office on Mondays, Tuesday and Thursdays.

Chelsea Misiti  
Social Worker

**VACCINE PROGRAM**

**Three big changes to the vaccine program**

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

- The Melton City Council’s immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccine program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact Sophie Bykersma in Sickbay on 9743 9211 by 28 February 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Melton City Council.
- In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.
- The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form/s coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination go to immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

Sophie Bykersma  
First Aid Officer

**CARPARK**

**Student Drop Off and Pick Up/Staff Carpark**

Dear families,

As the traffic near the college is heavy in the mornings and afternoons, we request that you endeavour to use the street off Centenary Avenue, near Kurunjang Reserve, to drop off and pick up your children.

Kurunjang Drive is becoming congested and poses a risk and delay to everyone who uses it. If you can avoid it, please make use of the street at the rear of the college.

Please note that the staff carpark is out of bounds and must not be used for morning drop offs and afternoon pickups. Our staff and service providers must have uninterrupted access at all times, in line with OH&S guidelines.

Also, there is path used by the secondary college and the primary school students that runs through the carpark entrance. This must not be blocked.

We have one disabled parking spot near the main entrance of the college and this must be left clear for easy access by those who hold a Disabled Parking Permit for mobility conditions.

Thank you for your support in making our college environment safe.

Ms Aylin Gökmen  
Assistant Principal