

The Dragon

08/02/2017



Bairnsdale
SECONDARY COLLEGE

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of the College

Welcome back, and in particular a warm welcome to our new students, parents and staff to the College. We can report a smooth start to the year where students and staff have settled in well.

Our College has aspirational values for staff and students. These values are guiding beacons to help us define behaviours that enable individuals and groups to organise and work together safely and productively. For students they are: "Respect for Self, Others and Environment" and "Be the Best you can Be".

As staff we adopt the same values and add "Honour and Celebrate Diversity" and "Work Together". "Students are the Focus" is at the centre of staff values.

A long list of rules and consequences doesn't necessarily educate people to understand why and how they can be better. Part of the process is to build beliefs that enhance problem solving and analysis in the pursuit of higher order thinking and higher order values. In other words, we encourage reflective thinking and the skills for thinking.

In the press recently there is much talk about alternative facts and post truth, where objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief. In a world of fast food type information and a bombardment of catchy political phrases, the truth is often lost.

Put simply, never before have we had such a need for critical and reflective thinking, so we can care about ourselves and others and care about the planet.

It is my honour to introduce to you our new members of staff:

Teaching:

Alise Brown (ABR)	Maths/Science
David Nuthall(DNU)	Business/Humanities
Rosetta Mastrantone (RMT)	Art/Viscom
Kathryn Clapperton (KCL)	Maths/Science
Andrea Blunden (ABL)	Maths/Science
Nicole Goodwin (NGO)	Art/Photography

Julie Hwang (JHW)	Japanese
Jade Van Hooydonk (JVH)	English
Leah Marchant (LMA)	Outdoor Education
Brendan Rowarth (BRO)	Technology
Sarah Lambie (SLA)	English
Matthew Carey (MCA)	PE/Outdoor Ed/Sport Ed
Riley Le Lievre (RLE)	PE/ Science

Non Teaching:

Charlie Abraham (CAB)	Sport Assistant
Mitchell Dewar (MDE)	Sport Assistant
Adam Seidel (ASI)	Integration/ICT Assistant
Shikira Dix (SDI)	Integration Assistant
Hayley Blythman (HBL)	Integration Assistant
Casey Lawson (CLA)	Integration Assistant
Katie Trevaskis (KTR)	Youth Worker

Returning Staff:

Peter Robertson (PRO)	Science
Jan Fiedler (JFI)	English

Much of the information about your child and how we do things is available on Compass. I have asked our technical people to give an easy to follow guide on how to access and use Compass in this newsletter. If ever unsure or in need of assistance, contact us and we will do our best to assist.

Kind Regards
Ian Hall



Students participating in Activities Week (December 2016)

WARGOMERRIN HUB - YEAR 7

The Wargomerrin Hub would like to make a warm welcome to all Year 7 students and their families. It is an exciting and meaningful time in students' life as they begin their journey through secondary college. We have had a great start to the year with classrooms full of enthusiasm and excitement about the subjects on offer at the College. We all look forward to the year ahead. Some important dates for the term include:

Welcoming Breakfast

Friday February 10 - The Year 7 Hub will host a breakfast on February 10 to meet and build relationships with students and their families. We would encourage as many families to attend the breakfast to meet staff. Breakfast will begin at 7.30am at the Wargomerrin Hub.

Swimming Competency

Wednesday March 1 - Students attending Year 7 camp will need to demonstrate swimming competency to participate in aquatic activities at the Year 7 Camp. Information regarding this assessment will accompany camp information.

Year 7 Camp

March 6–10 - This year's camp will be at Coonawarra Farm Resort. Each form group will attend a 3 day camp either from March 6 - 8 or March 8 - 10. The camp is an integral part of the transition period to Secondary College.

One of the major aims of the camp is to build positive respectful relationships with their peers and college staff. More information will be arriving home with your child in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the College.

Immunisations

Wednesday March 15 - Immunisation cards and information will be sent home with students. These cards need to be returned to the students' Key Teacher.

To assist the Hub in keeping accurate attendance data, could all student absences either be phoned into the college or a note sent into with the student upon their return to school and handed into the Year 7 Hub.

In 2017 the Year 7 Hub consists of:

Lisa Evans Year 7 Hub Front Desk
Jess Mitreski Year 7 Coordinator
Amy Hooper Year 7 Coordination
Renea Betts Learning Hub Leader/Transition

WURRIN – YEAR 8 - 9

Welcome to all students and families to the Year 8/9 Hub for 2017. The Hub is known as Wurrin and is home to Shane McFadyen and Debbie Blackley both working with our Year 9 students and Elise Malberg and Mandy Holmes working with Year 8. Tracey Rendell and Jess Overy-Spargo make up the team with their smiling faces greeting students at the front desk.

We have had a good start to the year with students receiving their timetables and being in class within twenty minutes of the day starting. There were the usual few hiccups with room changes and students not being sure of where to go however by the end of the week the

majority of the students had become familiar with their new routines. Some students are still working through timetable changes and are aware of the processes that need to occur for this to happen.

We are looking forward to an exciting year with our students and have discussed with them the idea of "Being the Best we can Be" and what this might look like for them. We will be focusing on this value during pastoral classes and encourage all students and families to discuss what this may look like both at home and in the school.

We have the school swimming sports coming up in a few weeks and this could be a great opportunity for all students to practice and live the values of our school.

Year 8/9 students are looking forward to the trip to Tasmania in April and May and for many students this will be their first trip out of the state without their family so there will be a mixture of excitement and trepidation. We are looking forward to the trip and giving the students the opportunity to make new friends and to see new places.

We encourage families to make contact with Hub staff if there are any concerns in regards to their children and we will work with them to make the school year a productive and memorable one for their child.

MALGOBILA HUB - YEARS 10 – 12

We would like to extend a warm welcome back to all students and families, especially Year 10 students new to the Senior Hub and all other students who are new to the College. We will be working hard to get to know everyone and hope all students are able to feel welcome and settle in quickly.

There have been several changes to the Senior Hub Team in 2017. Below is a quick reference guide to support you in knowing who to contact.

Paul Martin:	Year 12 Hub Leader and Assistant Principal
Janine Rooks	Year 12 Coordinator
Belinda Neville	Year 11 Hub Leader
Mark Molineux	Year 11 Coordinator
David Ballantyne	Year 10 Hub Leader
Natalie Hunter	Year 10 Coordinator
Chris Taylor	VCAL Coordinator
Deb Barned	VCAL Support
Jude Downie	VCAL Support
Sue Monahu	Careers
Yvonne Rooney	Senior Hub Front Desk
Stacey Murphy	Senior Hub Front Desk

Contact Details

At this time of year we ask all families to please make sure that your contact details are still current – if any contact or family details have changed please pick up a "Change of Details" form from the Hub desk. This is particularly important if anyone at the College needs to contact you in an emergency.

Uniform

We would like to congratulate families and students for the level of support shown for our school uniform at the start of 2017. Parents can provide ongoing support to the College by ensuring students attend school wearing the correct uniform daily. In the event that a student is out of uniform, parents/guardians should provide a written note explaining why, or contact the relevant Year Level Coordinator via phone or email. To support families the College and Gippsland Safety Supplies have established a system for exchanging used uniforms for store credits.

If there are any issues or concerns at all please contact the Hub Office. We work hard to provide a constructive network of support for our students. A strong relationship between the College, students and families is important to cater for the unique needs of all of our students and enable each student to "Be the Best they can Be".

2017 Special Examination Arrangements Applications

Bairnsdale Secondary College and VCAA recognise that students with illness or various disabilities may require special arrangements for their external examinations at the end of the year. These special arrangements will assist students to access the examination questions and communicate their responses accurately.

The school will complete these applications on behalf of students in Unit 3 and 4 studies. We have started this lengthy process and we have a very short deadline. If for any reason you think your child may require consideration for special arrangements, it is vital that you contact the College this week.

Senior Hub Team

VCAL

The VCAL program for Years 11 and 12 students is off and running. There are some changes that will impact on all students. This year our three Intermediate Groups will undertake Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) for a three week block twice during the year. Senior VCAL students will undertake SWL one day per week throughout the entire year.

SWL is one of the most important aspects of the program as it gives students vital experience aimed at their career. Most of the traineeships and apprenticeships our students gain come from their SWL experience.

All students need to be actively seeking a work placement NOW. I would urge parents to support your child to secure a place. Networking is an excellent way to increase opportunities. We also make every effort to support our students. Our Careers Councillor, Sue Monahu is always available to help out. I stress the importance of being proactive and to treat this task as a priority. Please feel free to contact me for assistance.

Great news! Already this year we have placed one student in a full time apprenticeship and two others in a School Based Traineeship. Our congratulations go out to them.

Chris Taylor
VCAL Coordinator

MUSIC CENTRE

On behalf of all Music Centre staff we would like to welcome back existing music students for yet another exciting year. Also a special welcome to all new families into the instrumental music program. Over sixty new students have enrolled in the program this year to learn a musical instrument and join our ensembles. All music staff are ready to go, instruments are being prepared as lessons commence in Week 3.

A reminder to all new students and families, a meeting will be held in the music centre on Monday February 13 commencing at 7.00pm. At this meeting information regarding cost, timetabling and course content will be covered and there will be an opportunity to meet the instrumental staff. If you are unable to attend please contact the College on 5150 4800, leave your name and I will forward correspondence to students to take home the following day.

A list of beginner students and new students with previous experience has been posted on the front doors of the Music Centre. Instruments have been allocated to students according to their preference and ensemble requirement to achieve balanced bands.

Week 2 and the Music Centre is already busy with some of our senior students auditioning to join the State Schools Spectacular Orchestra in preparation for two performances at Hisense Arena in September. Our string ensemble have already had their first performances at the Bairnsdale Farmer's Market.

Rehearsals have already commenced so a reminder to all students that attendance at rehearsals is compulsory, this includes lessons. All students have received their timetables so please check your lesson time and remember to bring your instrument and music to school. All new students will receive their own timetable in Week 3.

The Swing Band will have its first performance at the Paynesville Music Festival on Sunday February 26 on the Barge, McMillan Strait. The band will perform a one hour set from 2.00pm till 3.00pm. Come along and support our young musicians.

Colorado Children's Chorale Concert

The Senior Band/Senior Strings will be hosting forty students from Colorado Denver at the end of March. A combined concert featuring the host group and our senior ensembles will take place on Monday March 27. The concert will begin at 7.00pm. Entry fee and all other details will be out soon. This is a fundraiser to help support our senior ensembles on their tours. It promises to be a fantastic evening with all ensembles performing concluding with combined items.

A concert featuring our Junior and Intermediate concert bands will take place early in Term 2. More details soon.

A Music Centre newsletter will be mailed out shortly to all families in the program. In the meantime if any parent has any queries please contact Gerry Ciavarella on 5150 4843 or mobile 0409 142 240. Thank you.

Gerry Ciavarella
Music Coordinator

STUDENT ACCIDENT/MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS

If a student is ill or injured, our first point of contact is the student's parent/guardian so that they can seek what medical attention they feel is appropriate.

In an emergency situation, the College may call an ambulance or for any necessary medical attention on behalf of the student's parents/guardians.

Parents/guardians are reminded that DET does not provide personal accident insurance for students.

If a student is injured at school or during a school organised activity, then parents/guardians are responsible for the cost of medical treatment including transport costs (i.e. ambulance).

Reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from commercial insurers and/or ambulance cover is available from Ambulance Victoria.

SHINGLES/CHICKENPOX

We currently have some incidence of both Chickenpox and Shingles in our School community.

Many of our students have been immunised against Chickenpox. Shingles can only be diagnosed in people who have already had chickenpox earlier in their life. More information can be obtained on the Royal Children's Hospital website
http://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Chickenpox_Varicella/

Chicken pox is an infection caused by the varicella virus. It cannot be treated with antibiotics. The condition is spread via direct contact with the person who has chickenpox, from coughed fluids from the chest or by touching the fluid from the blisters. Children with chickenpox are infectious for 1-2 days before the rash starts and until the blisters have dried. Students with chickenpox must stay at home until the last blister is dried up. Treatment can only be given for the symptoms the patient is displaying.

Symptoms:

A mild fever, feeling tired and irritable, itching.

Rash - The rash usually starts on the chest, back or face. It then can move to other areas of the body including the inside of the mouth. At first the rash looks like small pimples. These later become blisters full of fluid.

Shingles - is a skin rash, caused by the varicella zoster virus. It is the same virus that is responsible for chickenpox. It causes painful blistering around or across the body. Shingles occurs because of a reactivation of the chickenpox virus after an attack of chickenpox. An attack of shingles during pregnancy is unlikely to harm the unborn baby, but an attack of chickenpox during pregnancy is serious and requires immediate medical attention.

If you are unsure about diagnosis and or treatment for your child seek medical advice.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM 2017

The Breakfast Program for all staff and students is now up and running!

Come to W16 from 8.00am each morning! We offer cereal, raisin toast, yoghurt, or fruit and a hot drink to start the day.

All welcome, whether you simply don't have time in the morning to have breakfast, are an early bus travellers or you just like to chat with friends and share breakfast together. Our breakfast volunteers from Clifton Waters Village also love to meet everyone who comes for breakfast.

Student Wellbeing Team

AUSSIE SCHOOL PHOTOS

Tuesday 14 February / Wednesday 15 February, 2017

School photo packages have been sent home with students.

Students to take photo package and payment with them when having photo taken. (Do not hand into office or hub).

Tuesday February 15	Years 7, 9 and 10
Wednesday February 15	Years 8, 11, 12 and Changing Lanes

(If students miss their photo time they can catch up at any time either day)

How to Order School Photos

- 1 Place your order **on-line prior to photo day** using the unique WEB LOG-ON CODE printed on your payment form. Tick "order on line" box at top of order form and have your child hand it to the photographer on the day.
- 2 You can **complete the pre-payment order form**. Include your cash, cheque or credit card payment in the envelope and have your child hand it to our photographer on photo day.
- 3 You can choose to wait for five working days to go on-line to **VIEW the images and CREATE a package to suit**. (You have fourteen days to do this) Please tick box at top of order form to say "I will order on-line" and have your child hand the form to the photographer on photo day.

If you do not wish to purchase photos, please tick the box printed at the top of the order form to say "am not buying photos today" and have your child hand the envelope to the photographer on photo day.

All queries should be directed to:

photos@schoolphoto.com.au or go to the website at:
www.schoolphoto.com.au

Customer Service – 03 9707 6655 or 03 9707 6653

2017 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). ICAS has taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and is now in more than 20 countries.

ICAS:

- are university backed and internationally recognised assessments
- are skills based assessments for students in Years 2-12
- are written by subject specialists and are available in the learning areas of Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing
- reports the performance of your child through a 25-60 minute supervised in-school test. The length of each test depends on the subject and year level being tested. More information about each subject can be found at:
<http://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/subjects>
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a child's academic strengths and weaknesses and tracks their progress by subject from Year 2 to Year 12
- uses other participating students' results as a reference point for comparing your child's performance
- provides excellent preparation for in-school and national tests
- contains questions designed specifically to explore the abilities of children at all levels
- results are available to parents in a hard copy report and online
- reports indicate which questions were answered correctly and are highly suitable for inclusion in an academic portfolio for future tertiary entrance or when applying for a job
- are administered at school, so teachers can also access this valuable information about your child
- rewards the top student in each subject in each year level with a UNSW gold medal
- recognises all students with certificates of High Distinction, Distinction, Credit and Participation. For more information about awards and recognition go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/awards

For more information about ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au, or send an email to info@eaa.unsw.edu.au or contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010

Bairnsdale Secondary College will be supervising tests on the following dates.

Digital Technologies	Monday May 22 (Entries close April 6)
Science	Tuesday May 30 (Entries close May 1)
English	Tuesday August 1 (Entries close June 22)
Maths	Tuesday August 15 (Entries close June 22)

Entry forms are available to students now and can be found at the Hubs, Learning Resource Centre and the General Office. Forms must be signed by a Parent and returned to school prior to the subject closing date. Any enquiries please contact Lorry Kemp at the College.

THE DRAGON

Families who would like to receive The Dragon via email, please email the School on:
bairnsdale.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

ARE YOU LOGGING INTO COMPASS?

Don't forget that you can give ongoing support to your child by monitoring their progress using COMPASS.

Just log into:

<https://bairnsdalesc.vic.idf.com.au/login.aspx> using the log in information that you have received from the school. Alternatively, you can now download the Compass App onto your phone or tablet for easy access via the Google Play Store or iTunes App Store.

If you are a parent of a Year 7 student or a student new to the school, you will receive log in details for Compass in the next few weeks.

You can use the Compass portal to:

- Read progress reports. These are produced every three to four weeks.
- Read semester reports
- Monitor your child's attendance data
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences for your child
- View information about upcoming excursions
- Update your registered email and mobile phone number details (used for SMS alerts)
- Book for Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews
- View the school calendar for important dates/events
- Access news items that may be posted on a daily basis.
- Obtain an electronic copy of the Dragon (published on Newsfeed)

If you have difficulty logging in, or you have misplaced your log-in details, please contact the College for assistance.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SQUASH AND RACQUETBALL CLUB (JUNIORS)

This year we are running a juniors racquetball competition for ages 6- 18. We would like as many players as we can find. This is an ideal opportunity to learn a new sport and make some great friends along the way.

Each school term there will be a pennant. It runs on a Monday night and starts at 4:00pm at the Bairnsdale Squash and Table Tennis Centre.

Monday February 6 is a "free" come and try night, then the following week on Monday February 13 is when the pennant will start. It is extremely affordable and lots of fun. Racquets are provided.

For more information call: Laughlin Barlow (Junior racquetball coordinator) – 0490 065 203

FEBRAURY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		8	9	10 7.30am Year 7 Breakfast	11	12
13	14 School Photos	15 School Photos	16 Swimming Carnival	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Senior Elevate					

MARCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Labour Day	14 Senior Elevate	15 Year 7 Immunisations	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 12.00noon Assembly of Achievement 5.00pm-8.00pm Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews Night	31 Student Free Day 9.00am-12.00noon Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews Day Last Day - Term 1		