

The Dragon

May 18, 2018



PH. (03) 5150 4800 (Administration Office)

<http://www.bairnsdalesc.vic.edu.au>

bairnsdale.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of the College

Staff Professional Development Day

On Tuesday May 22, 2018 there will be a student free day for Staff Professional Development.

Staff have selected from a menu of topics including Applied Learning Tasks, Web Site Design, Pastoral Education, Study Skills, Koori Education, Excel, First Aid, Yoga and Meditation.

Budget

It was disappointing, but not unexpected, that our infrastructure needs were once again overlooked in the latest state budget. Our College has grown in enrolments by 20% in the past five years, and it would be preferred that governments look beyond self-interest when allocating priorities.

We have had a census audit and our enrolment numbers have been adjusted to 1162, which is an increase from last year from 1075.

Communication

For public announcements, we are increasingly using our Facebook page and Compass. For immediate notices where students are not passing on notes, we are using SMS messaging to send key information to parents and carers. Here we are restricted by the length, so we apologise if sometimes this comes across as curt or abrupt.

You can access this newsletter from our website, along with some information about events at the College. Our Facebook page make regular announcements to keep people informed and celebrate our students' achievements. Links to these sites and pages are:

- Facebook – www.facebook.com/bairnsdalesc
- Website – <http://www.bairnsdalesc.vic.edu.au>

Information Nights

Wednesday May 9 was our Grade 5 and Grade 6 information evening. We thank all the families for visiting us on the night. Both events had unusually high attendance with large numbers of parents from beyond our usual catchments.

Anzac Day Ceremonies

The school had two major events pertaining to ANZAC Day. During session 1 a service for Student School Leaders and during session 3 a Whole School Assembly featuring speakers by our School Captains and a retired veteran.

Rainbow Reading

This term the College has introduced a Reading Comprehension Program for selected students in Years 7 and 8 who are reading below their chronological age. The program utilizes the resources and methodology of the Rainbow Reading Program, which has been operating very successfully at Bairnsdale West Primary School. The materials include a range of fiction and non-fiction texts supported by audiotapes and a range of text-related activities such as cloze, text-sequencing and writing activities, all of which provide for very focused instruction and varied opportunities for ongoing assessment.

This year 35 students have taken part in the program, mostly in small groups of four to five students, under the guidance of Jenny Carter, Hayley Blythman and Alara Hood.

Participants attend for 35-minute sessions three times a week, and are encouraged to take an active role in monitoring their progress by keeping records of books read, and their progress with the associated activities, as well as taking part in a "conference" with their instructor to assess their fluency, comprehension and perhaps their readiness to advance to a higher level. Each term the instructors confer with Year 7 and 8 English teachers concerning which of the students would benefit from continuing with the program, as well as other students who might be included in a new intake.

Kind regards

Ian Hall



WARGOMERRIN HUB – YEAR 7

A warm welcome back to Term 2 to all our students in Year 7 and their families. We hope that all students have settled in with their changes in technology subjects. We are looking forward to seeing the products each student completes at the end of term.

Thank you to all the Year 7 helpers who volunteered to show families the school on Information Night. It was nice to see how proud and enthusiastic students are of the college and the work they do across a range of Key Learning Areas.

Over the next couple of weeks there are some key events. NAPLAN begins on Tuesday May 15. We hope that students take this opportunity to try their hardest throughout the week. We also have the school Cross Country on Wednesday May 16. Good luck to all students.

As the weather gets colder, we remind students to keep warm. If you need assistance with uniform please contact the Year 7 Hub.

WURRIN HUB – YEARS 8 - 9

The Wurrin Hub has had a busy and productive start to Term 2 welcoming the Alpine Leadership School students Harvey Williams, Taryn Gardam, Michael Garro, Emily Steele, Amy Blanks, and Ruby Herbstreit back to the college with renewed confidence and enthusiasm. The team has launched their Community Learning Project 'Cans for the Community' in support of the Bairnsdale Neighbourhood House helping local families in need. The students have been working tirelessly coordinating local primary schools, kindergartens and supermarkets to house collection points for community members to donate non-perishable items during the week of May 21-27. The team is aiming for 2018 items to be donated to mark the year of 2018. Spread the word and support the students in this important project.

In alignment with our school values our Term 2 assemblies continue to focus on kindness and courage, and have recently looked to the Yin Yang symbol as a reminder of the light and the dark side of human nature. Students were reminded that all individuals are capable of behaving and treating each other with respect and that with a conscious effort to see the positive in one another we can work towards getting along amicably.

This week the school came together to welcome prospective families at our grade 5/6 information night. We congratulate the year 8 and 9 student leadership teams and all of the other volunteers who helped out on the night. Each student displayed pride in being a Bairnsdale Secondary College student and guided families around each display interacting with staff, parents and students in a friendly and confident manner.

As we head into winter a reminder that if you have any good quality uniform items that your child has outgrown please consider donating them to the College so that we can further support families in need.



MALGOBILA HUB - YEARS 10 – 12

Subject Selections for 2019

Year 10 students have begun the process of learning about their educational options after this year. These pathways include VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) and VET (Vocational Education and Training). This term, in Pastoral classes, there will be many opportunities for getting more information about these options. Our 2019 Later Years Course Guide will be published shortly and distributed to students in Pastoral classes. Students will be able to discuss which courses of education to take, subject selections and requirements for completion for each of the education certificates.

Parents and Carers of Year 10 students are urged to attend our Later Years Education Information evening on Wednesday May 30. Please stay tuned for further details concerning this evening. 2019 Year 11 subject selections will be required to be submitted very early in Term 3. Individual counselling of students intending on moving into Year 11 will be carried out during our "Sign-up Days" during Week 2 of Term 3. 2019 Year 11 and Year 12 subject selections are due the following week.

GAT and Mid-Year VCE/VCAL Exam Week GAT

The 2018 GAT will be held in our exam centre which is the old Wallace Street Library on Wednesday June 13 from 10.00am to 1.15pm.

All students enrolled in a Year 12 (Unit 3/4) subject are required to sit the GAT (General Achievement Task.) The GAT is used by VCAA to check that our school based and external assessments are accurate and to help calculate a derived score, if by chance a student is unable to sit the end of year externally assessed exams.

During this week, our VCE students will have a range of exams, particularly for VCE English and Mathematics subjects. Senior VCAL (Year 12) students will have the VCAL interviews. We are also planning an assessment item for our Intermediate (Year 11) VCAL students. A timetable to manage this exam week will be published for families and students shortly.

Home Study

Currently, our Year 12 students are able to complete a permission form to enable them to sign out and go home to study when they don't have a scheduled class for the remainder of the day. Unfortunately, this opportunity is unavailable to bus travellers. Please understand that this does not mean we are approving students to be shopping, hanging around the streets or at McDonalds.

At this stage this opportunity is not extended to our Year 11 students. They are required to be studying in our LRC or the Library during their study sessions.

Students and Cars

As the year progresses, more and more of our students are getting their licence to drive. We ask that all students who drive themselves to school to register with us and complete the required paperwork at the senior hub desk. This will enable us to be vigilant and ensure we can do our best to maintain the safety of all our students.

Winter Uniform

The approaching cold weather has led to students being out of uniform claiming they are not warm enough. We would like to remind families that there is a wide and season suitable range of uniform items available including woollen jumpers, windcheaters, fleecy jackets, showerproof spray jackets and softshell jackets. The local uniform shop has new stock of navy blue pants for our girls. Some of our senior girls have taken up this option and the pants are very flattering and they look very smart.

Staff Absence and Student Attendance

We encourage all of our families to contact the school in the event of student absence. We are required by the Education Department to keep very accurate records of student attendance and our funding is reliant on this attendance. We are required by the Department to have a reason for every single student absence and truancy is a very disappointing reason for absence. We will continue to call and SMS families seeking reasons for student absence, but would appreciate if you could let us know and even enter the details yourself through your parent Compass login. We are very keen to assist you with your parent login for Compass if you need it.

Sometimes our teaching staff are unwell and unable to come to school. In the Senior Hub, we are striving to have our senior classes covered although acknowledge that this is not always possible. It's disappointing to find that although classroom teachers are leaving work with our relief teachers, some students are opting not to attend these classes and work through the set tasks.

2018 Debutante Ball

The College annual Debutante Ball will be held over two evenings this Friday May 18 and Saturday May 19. This year's theme is "Hollywood", we look forward to making these event a night to remember for the forty-four debutantes and their partners.

We understand that traditionally students organise and attend a range of "after parties". The College has no part or responsibility towards organising these. We care about all of our students and ask that you discuss with your child their attendance and ensure that they have a great night and arrive home safely.

VCE/VCAL

As the semester progresses, we must highlight the requirements of both VCE and VCAL regarding attendance. If students are absent from school, please contact us. We are endeavouring to call all our absentees but our timing isn't always convenient for parents and carers. We encourage more parents and carers to get onto Compass where you can record absenteeism and check attendance, check monthly progress reports and even school work that your student has missed, or has been left by an absent teacher. A phone call, email or handwritten note are also acceptable ways to let us know.

Year 12 VCE/VCAL students missing SACs (School Assessed Coursework) and Assessment Tasks through absence must present a medical certificate or Statutory Declaration and negotiate an alternative time to complete the SAC or task. Incompletion of VCE SAC material and specific VCAL Tasks is likely to lead to a "Non-Satisfactory" result for the entire unit. It is vital that you contact the Hub if you require any clarification on this matter.

iTRACK MENTORING PROGRAM

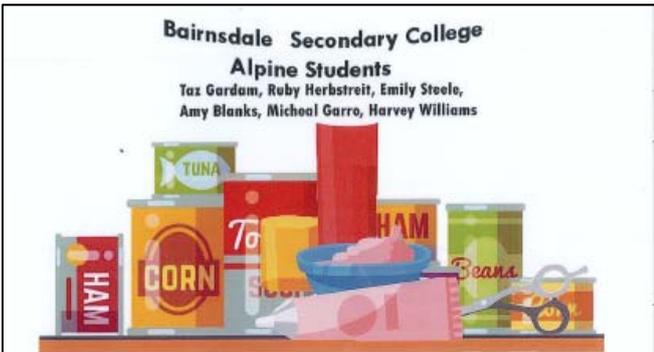
The iTrack mentoring program began last week with a group of Bairnsdale Secondary College students beginning their weekly mentoring sessions. The program is run by the Smith Family and is a wonderful way for students to receive valuable mentoring advice. The students have been matched with mentors who have already found success in their careers and who are willing to share advice with our students. This advice can range from tips to gain entry to particular careers, job interview techniques, goal setting and general insights into the reality of many careers. The weekly sessions provide students with an opportunity to find out a lot more about particular careers and life after school. Being involved in the iTrack mentoring program will also look impressive on the students' resumes as it shows that students have taken the initiative and commitment to investigate their careers. The iTrack mentoring program will run throughout Terms 2 and 3.



CANS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Six students have returned from the Alpine School for Student Leadership more engaged in the needs of the community. They are excited to implement their community learning project "Cans for the Community" and have a number of schools and businesses on board to aid in the collection of their goal of 2,018 cans and non-perishable items to donate to Bairnsdale Neighbourhood House.

Collection points will be at each of the hubs here at school. Please support the project and our community by bringing in canned goods or non-perishable items between Monday May 21 and Friday May 25.



Bairnsdale Secondary College
Alpine Students
Tax Gardam, Ruby Herbstreit, Emily Stoele,
Amy Blanks, Michael Garro, Harvey Williams

Cans For The Community

Cans for The Community is a week where we would like to raise 2,018 cans, toiletries and long lasting foods for the less fortunate.

May 21st - 25th Drop Your Supplies at:
Bairnsdale Secondary - 754 Primary - Bairnsdale West -
Lucknow Primary- Swan Reach Primary/Kinder-
Paynesville Kinder-Woolies- Coles- IGA -
Luckes-Dahlsens



The Alpine Leadership School students: Harvey Williams, Taryn Gardam, Michael Garro, Emily Steele, Amy Blanks and Ruby Herbstreit

JAPANESE HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

This year, 20 students from Yaei High School will be visiting Bairnsdale Secondary College from Monday July 30 to Monday August 6. They are looking forward to attending school and spending time with a host family where they can improve their English and experience Australian culture. This is a fantastic opportunity for both Bairnsdale Secondary College students and Yaei High School students to exchange cultural understandings and to build a long-lasting friendship.

If you are interested in hosting a student, please contact Elise Malberg, Julie Hwang or Zoe Stokes on 5150 4800 or email: malberg.elise.e@edumail.vic.gov.au hwang.sojung.s@edumail.vic.gov.au stokes.zoe.z@edumail.vic.gov.au

Your support would be greatly appreciated.

WELLBEING TEAM

Are you a parent or legal guardian of an adolescent receiving treatment for anxiety and/or depression from a mental health professional/service? If so you may be interested in this program.

Monash University TOPS – Therapist-assisted Online Parenting Strategies.

What is the research about?

The research aim is to evaluate whether our new program, TOPS (Therapist-assisted Online Parenting Strategies) can help parents to support their adolescents who are experiencing anxiety and/or depression. The research is being undertaken by Monash University.

What is involved?

- Participation only takes a few hours over 12 months
- You and your adolescent complete online surveys at 4 time-points: when you first register, before starting the program, and 3 and 12 months afterwards

You receive:

- Access to an individually tailored online parenting program
- Practical strategies to parent more confidently
- Tailored goals to help put these strategies into practice
- Regular contact with a TOPS-coach via videoconferencing to help you apply strategies to your own situation

To say thank-you, you and your teen will each receive e-vouchers over 4 time points (worth \$50 in total per person)

Who can participate?

Parents or legal guardians with their adolescent (aged 12-17 years):

- The adolescent needs to be receiving treatment for anxiety and/or depression from a mental health professional/service
- Have internet access, and consider themselves proficient in English. **Interested?**

For further information or to register, please go to: <https://tops.partnersinparenting.net.au/> or contact the TOPS team by email at: med-tops.coach@monash.edu

IDAHOBIT Day Celebrations

On Thursday May 17 the College will celebrate International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT). Students will be taking part in activities at lunchtime and a ceremony to mark the raising of the rainbow flag. The College is taking part in this day to celebrate diversity amongst staff and students.

Headspace

Headspace Bairnsdale is located at 171 Main Street. The office is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 6.00pm, with Tuesdays opening hours 12.00noon to 8.00pm. Headspace provides face to face information, support and services to young people, aged 12 to 25 years, and their families and friends. The College Wellbeing Team are able to make referrals to Headspace, but students and families can also contact them directly on 5141 6200.

Doctor's in Schools

The College has now secured the services of GP, Elizabeth Wearne and Practice Nurse, Sophie Brown. Students are able to make appointments to see the Doctor or Nurse through the Hubs. The service is operating every Tuesday during the school term.

Breakfast program

The College has a breakfast program available to students every morning from 8.00am. Students are welcome to drop into W16 any weekday morning for a healthy breakfast.

RECYCLE YOUR UNIFORM FOR STORE CREDITS!

The College's uniform supplier, Gippsland Safety Supplies and Workwear, now provides a service to families who wish to sell or purchase used Bairnsdale Secondary College uniforms. All items returned to the store in the condition described below will be given a 25% store credit. Used uniforms can be purchased at 50% of the cost of full priced items.

- Clothes must be clean/freshly washed.
- Clothes must be in saleable condition (no stains, holes, rips, zippers/buttons in working order)
- All seams and hems must be sewn.
- Alterations to original product will be assessed for quality.
- Clothes must be current correct Bairnsdale Secondary College issue.

To benefit from this extra service, uniform items can be delivered to Gippsland Safety Supplies and Workwear in a package clearly labelled with your name, contact number, email address and items listed. Families can also choose to donate items if they wish.

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 in to:

<https://bairnsdalesc-vic.compass.education/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.

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.

CAREERS NEWS

With many Careers events and activities scheduled, May is shaping up to be a busy month.

Sam Jones gives the lowdown on transitioning to University

Sam Jones (2017 Year 12) returned to the College recently to speak with Year 12 students on her experience in transitioning from Bairnsdale Secondary College to RMIT University. Sam is undertaking the first year of a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree. Questions covering an array of areas from study and academic support to where to find accommodation and the all-important day to day issues such as where to do your laundry were all answered. Sam generously gave up additional time spending session 4 with students advising them on study, revision and exam tips. We wish Sam all the very best and look forward to a return visit during her semester breaks.



Monash University – Monash E-mentoring program

Year 12 students were recently given the opportunity to apply for the Access Monash E-Mentoring program. This program is designed to help students explore tertiary study by connecting with a current University student.

Running during Terms 2 and Term 3 the mentees and mentors are individually matched and work collaboratively using a range of platforms including email, phone or Skype.

Students participating in the program receive a \$100 bursary to support their academic endeavours. The 2018 E-mentoring Induction day was held on Friday April 20 – mentees and mentors met face to face, undertaking activities developed to ensure their involvement in the program is of maximum benefit. With lunch provided and time to mingle, the day was a great launch into this year's program.

The VCE Careers Expo

With over 170 exhibitors and a full range of seminars the 2018 VCE and Careers Expo held at the Caulfield Racecourse provides students with the option to attend seminars and study skills sessions, speak with representatives from a wide range of tertiary providers, gain an understanding of career pathways and be inspired by the opportunities available to them.

This year we were pleased to offer senior students the opportunity to attend the seminar on Friday May 4. After an early morning start students arrived at the venue keen and eager to visit as many exhibitors as possible and attend seminars of interest. With show bags, give aways, brochures, guide books and seminar notes our students returned home tired, enthused and motivated.



Year 10 Federation University – Campus Visit

The Access Fed Uni program provides a range of in-school and on-campus activities allowing students to engage in higher education and experience University life. The Year 10 visit to the Federation University Churchill campus on Monday May 7 provided many students with their first experience of being on a University campus.

Students participated in an Amazing Race, an interactive study skills session and a Q and A session with student ambassadors. A \$10 lunch voucher to use at the student cafeteria and time to explore the campus. Student ambassadors ensured students returned with the increased understanding of tertiary study and knowledge that will assist them in the Later Years course and subject selection process.



Upcoming event

ADF- Australian Defence Force Information Session – Thursday May 24

The annual ADF Information session will take place on Thursday May 24 during session 4.

Students in Years 10-11-12 who are interested in a Career in the Defence Force are invited to attend. Details from Careers.

Upcoming event

TIS – Tertiary Information Service Visit Wednesday May 16, 2018

As host of the event we will see over 350 Year 12 students from schools across the East Gippsland Shire together with representatives from all major Universities/TAFE's and Training organisations attend the event.

The formal presentation provides students with an overview of the tertiary application process for this year along with information on Scholarships and Special Entry Access Schemes. Following the presentation students are free to speak with University staff and collect resources and information.

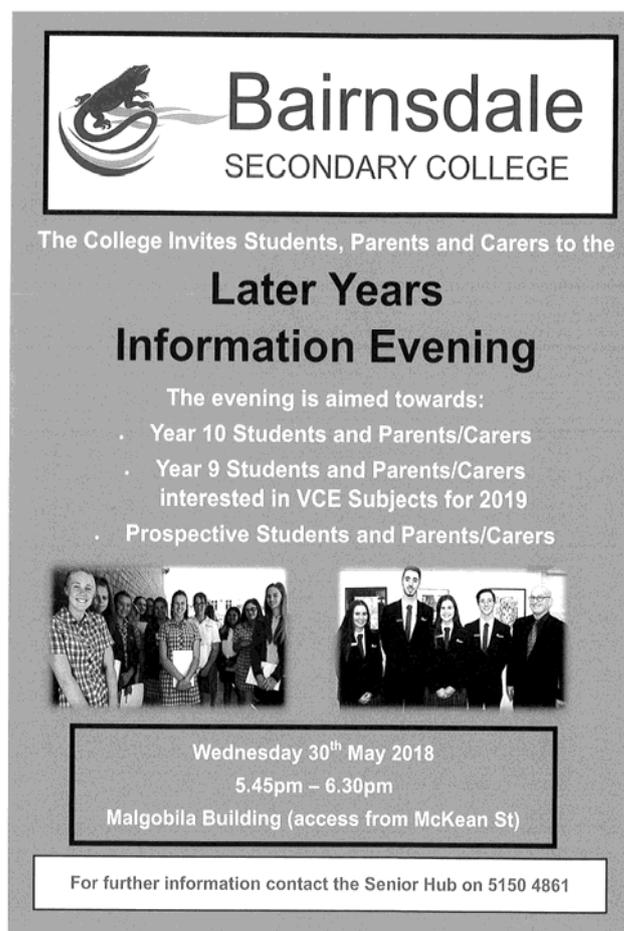
Upcoming event

2018 East Gippsland Careers Expo

Wednesday May 23, 2018 between 9.00am - 2.00pm – BARC

Our Senior VCAL students, VCAL and Careers staff have been busy working in collaboration with Federation Training to organise this year's Careers Expo. Year 10 students will attend the Expo during session 2 with senior students invited to attend during recess and lunchtime. A highlight this year will be the Australian Defence Force and Victoria Police who are not only exhibitors but also presenting information sessions throughout the day.

The BSC Careers web page lists a host of activities, information and events, please visit: <https://bairnsdalesccareers.com/>



Bairnsdale
SECONDARY COLLEGE

The College Invites Students, Parents and Carers to the

Later Years Information Evening

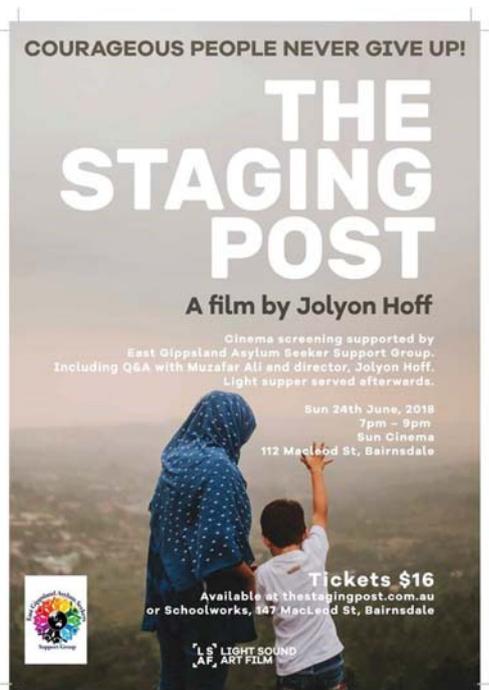
The evening is aimed towards:

- Year 10 Students and Parents/Carers
- Year 9 Students and Parents/Carers interested in VCE Subjects for 2019
- Prospective Students and Parents/Carers

Wednesday 30th May 2018
5.45pm – 6.30pm
Malgobila Building (access from McKean St)

For further information contact the Senior Hub on 5150 4861

COMMUNITY NOTICES



REQUEST FOR HOST FAMILY FOR MEDICAL STUDENT

This is a great opportunity for students interested in studying medicine or health to host a student.

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RMAV) manages the placements of medical students as part of the national John Flynn Placement Program – JFPP (www.jfpp.com.au). The John Flynn Placement Program is designed to attract the future medical workforce to a rural career by exposing medical students to rural clinical practice. Medical students undertake eight weeks of placement in a local practice over three or four years.

To ensure students receive a true understanding of rural communities we need the assistance of host families and community contacts. The host family provides accommodation and meals for the JFPP Scholar each year for the duration of the placement. Hosts receive payment per placement week to assist with costs. We are currently looking for Host families to assist with a placement from June 16 – 30, 2018 in the Bairnsdale area.

If you are interested please contact Karen on 03 9349 7800 or JFPPVIC@healthworkforce.com.au.

MAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						13
14	15 Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN	16 Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN Tertiary Information visit (TIS) Cross Country	17 Year 7 & 9 NAPLAN IDAHOBIT celebration day	18 NAPLAN catch up day 7.00pm Debutante Ball - No.1	19 7.00pm Debutante Ball - No.2	20
21	22 Whole School PD Day STUDENT FREE DAY	23 East Gippsland Careers Expo	24	25	26	27
28 Reconciliation Week Assemblies	29 ICAS Science	30 5.30pm – 6.30pm Later Years Info Night	31			

JUNE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Athletics Day	6 Central Australia -Trip 1	7	8 Merimbula Jazz Festival	9 Merimbula Jazz Festival	10 Merimbula Jazz Festival
11 Queen's Birthday PUBLIC HOLIDAY	12	13	14	15	16	17 Central Australia -Trip 2
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 7.00pm East Gippsland Music Festival Gala Concert in Boucher Hall	29 LAST DAY TERM 2 2.10pm FINISH	30	