DATES TO REMEMBER

August:
26th-29th - Year 9 Melbourne Experience (CBD)
28th - Year 2,3 & 4 Author Visit
   - Year 8 Winter Sport
29th - Subway Lunch Day
   - Year 4 Assembly (2-3pm)

September
1st - Issue 6 Book Club Due
   - Year 5 Sovereign Hill Excursion
3rd - Fathers Day Stall
   - Secondary Divisional Athletics
4th - Fathers Day Stall
   - Year 7 QVM/ACMI Excursion
5th - Year 2 Fathers Day Breakfast
  -Year 3 Assembly Gym (2-3pm)

Subway Dates August & September
Friday August 29th
Friday September 19th
Chocolate Money Due - 5th September

Principal News

A reminder to families that Prep enrolments for 2015 are now taking place. It is vital that we have a clear indication of Prep numbers as early as possible to enable staffing etc. to be planned for. Please drop in or make contact with the office to make an enrolment enquiry. On a similar note if you know your child/ren will not be attending the College in 2015 please let us know as soon as possible, again for planning purposes.

The staff had an extremely engaging and thought provoking Curriculum Day last Thursday where we explored the concept of “Positive Psychology” for wellbeing and wellness. The day was facilitated by Maria Roberto a clinical psychologist who specialises in this area of study.

One simple message from the day that we can pass on to parents as a resilience building practice in their family is instead of asking your children/partner “how was your day?” ASK “What went well today?” The ability to think positively needs to be developed like any other skill therefore asking for positive feedback encourages this growth. The College will be looking to further develop many of the strategies from the day into our Wellbeing and Wellness policies and practices.

There have been many special ‘happenings’ within the College this week to celebrate Book Week. Please visit the College website www.pcc.vic.edu.au to have a look at children and staff sharing their love of books.
NAPLAN Results

2014 NAPLAN are expected to arrive at school in the week following 1st September. They will be sent home with students as soon as we receive them.

Book Sales for Justin D’Ath

The school has copies of Justin’s book on display in the library for viewing by parents and students. You can also go to Justin D’Ath’s website for more information on this famous Australian author and his books. [http://www.justindath.com/main.html](http://www.justindath.com/main.html)

His books will be able to be purchased on the day during recess and lunch. Justin will also be available after school if parents wish to come along to buy them with their children.

Justin is giving us a discount on the books sold on the day. Books range in price from $10 (normally $12.99) for the Mission Fox books, Extreme Adventure books $12.00 each (usually $14.99), Lost Circus series $12.00 each (usually $14.99) and finally, Sam Fox Extreme Adventures (3 books in one) @ $15.00 (normally $19.99)

The Extreme Adventures TV series, which features Jordan and Harry as well as big brother Sam, can be seen on Sunday mornings on Channel 11.

Please remember that books **may only be purchased on the day, Thursday August 28 and correct change is necessary.** If sending money with students please place it in an envelope with name, amount and book title. **Please note that money is not to be given at the office.**

Assistant Principals News

Prep –4 News

It is hard to believe we are already half way through third term, where does the time go? Our Preps have had another busy fortnight which has included an invaluable visit from the CFA to discuss fire safety as well as getting prepared for their Book Week parade this week. It was wonderful to see so many students joining in the fun dressing up and an abundance of parents present to cheer them on. Photos of the students in the Fairy Tale castle will be made available for viewing on the website.

P-4 Parent Partnership Sessions - POSTPONED

In the last newsletter we flagged a Games Night for 27th August, however at this stage we have had not had any expressions of interest. We understand that this may not be the best time of year for getting out and about therefore we will be postponing the night until Term 4, on a date to be determined once we ascertain the level of interest.

2015 Prep Enrolments

We are currently in the early stages of organising our 2015 Prep Transition program. Invitations to participate will be mailed out to all enrolled Preps in early September so if you have a child starting with us next year please enroll them as soon as possible to ensure they have the opportunity to be a part of the program. If you know of anyone else whose has not yet enrolled their child for next year please pass on this information.

Year 5-9 News

NAPLAN 2014- media release

You may have heard on the radio or seen on the news and in the paper that NAPLAN results for 2014 have been released. This isn’t exactly accurate.

On Monday 18th ACARA published 2014 NAPLAN summary (preliminary) information for schools. At this stage the information provided is rather technical and only relevant to schools and teachers. This information does not
provide individual student results but rather broader information about the different assessment areas.

ACARA has indicated that Individual student reports will also be released earlier than in past years (the exact timeframe varies between states and territories) with some individual student reports released before the end of August. We will inform you and pass on individual reports as soon as they become available.

Uniform- Grooming and Appearance

We are concerned with a growing trend of students in the middle years not adhering to the Uniform Policy. In conversations with parents we have a strong sense that they too are concerned about their children not adhering to the policy and fully support the college in following up.

I have included excerpts from the Uniform policy, which refer to grooming and appearance. We ask for your ongoing support with this matter, as a strong partnership between home and school is important in this regard.

Hair
- Hair must be natural colours only
- Hair must be neat and if longer than shoulder length must be tied back as a health and safety precaution
- Hair accessories may be school colours only
- No facial hair
- Extreme hairstyles are not acceptable

Jewellery

The following items are acceptable
- A watch
- One set of studs or sleepers (in ears only)
- Other body piercings and body markings are not to be visible
- Medical alert bracelets are acceptable
- Jewellery can be an OHS issue. During some classes you will be required to remove certain items. The school will not be responsible for any loss or damage of items

Makeup
- Face – None
- Clear nail polish only

*CULTURAL/ MEDICAL EXCEPTIONS-
For individual issues please consult your relevant Assistant Principal.

Camps

As we approach the latter part of term 3 students in year 5,7,8 and 9 will be bringing home information regarding camps. At the end of last year we sent home an overview of the 2014 camping program and partnership with the YMCA including dates and approximate costs.

The notes you receive will confirm camp venue, dates, cost and a payment plan for those who choose that payment option.

All camps are carefully budgeted for and the college does NOT budget to make a profit or to subsidized staff attendance. The cost of camp includes the program, food, accommodation, YMCA staffing and transport.

Financial support for families in need.

YMCA helps people experiencing disadvantages by subsidising the costs of YMCA programs and services.

It is part of YMCA’s mission to provide equal access to health and wellness services to all members of the community, and help everyone lead healthier and happier lives.

If your family is experiencing financial difficulty, but would like to access the YMCA’s services (including camp), subsidies of 80-100% are available through YMCA Open Doors.

To be eligible two forms need to be completed.

An application form to be completed by the individual seeking support, and a nomination form to be completed by a referral agency to verify that the applicant is unable to pay but would benefit greatly from participating in a YMCA program or service.
Referral agencies include:

- School
- Employment services
- Health providers
- Welfare organisations, and
- Support groups.

Subsidised access can be provided to a range of YMCA programs and services including health and wellness/fitness training, swimming and water safety programs and camps.

Please feel free to talk to me about this

Frank Vetere
Assistant Principal

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**Fundraising**

**FATHER’S DAY STALL and RAFFLE 2014**

The Father’s Day stall will be held at the College on **Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th of September** at the canteen.

Students from all year levels will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for their dad or grandad during school hours.

There is a huge assortment of fun and exciting items for the students to purchase with prices ranging from $1.00 to $5.00.

Please remember to place money in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and home room on it sending it to school on the day of the stall. If students could please bring an eco-friendly bag to place the items in, it would be greatly appreciated.

We will also be having a Father’s Day Raffle. The hamper is full of wonderful gifts to spoil dad. Raffle tickets will be sent home to every family and will sell for **$0.50 each**. The hamper will be on display at the office.

**All tickets and money due Thursday 4th September and the winner drawn Friday September 5th.**

**CHOCOLATE DRIVE**

Thank you to the many families who have sold chocolates for our Chocolate drive. Could all money or unsold chocolates be returned by Friday September 5th please.

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**Administration**

**Family Invoices**

All families with outstanding fees will this week be posted a copy of their invoice. All student requisitions **must be paid by no later than 31st August 2014.**

Parents who do not make payment by this date will be referred to the Finance Committee of the College council.

Continuation of the supply of books, pens, pencils, take home readers, art supplies and performing arts equipment may not continue for the remainder of 2014.

Any families experiencing financial difficulties please call to make an appointment with the Business Manager.

Parents who do not make payment will need to provide their own resources for 2015 and will be sent home a list of supplies they will need to purchase.
**Library News**

**Premier’s Reading Challenge Update**

We have 18 children who have completed the challenge this last fortnight. Well done to the following:

- Rishit Srinivas PKW
- Kazuma Ly 1B
- Olivia Van Wyk 1K
- Melissa Rademeyer 1M
- George Katsouranis 1V
- Anisha Verma 3B
- Lisa Sinclair 4J
- Tram Anh Pham Ho 5O
- Pranil Shah 6CA

Some of you only have one or two more books to go. There is only one more week before the challenge finishes at PCC on Friday August 29 so get reading and get logging on. Don’t forget that if you have marked a book as started and you have completed reading it then change it to finished so we may verify it.

**ART News**

**Art Exhibition**

The 2014 PCC Art exhibition is fast approaching. Opening night will be on Wednesday 10th September from 4:30pm until 6pm. Awards will be presented to recipients at 5pm. If you are unable to attend on this night then you may wish to view the works of art after school on Thursday 11th September.

**PREP CFA VISIT**

On Wednesday 13th August all the Prep grades took part in a wonderful incursion presented by the C.F.A.

The students were involved in a role play activity about how to safely escape from their house should a fire occur, they were informed of a possible safe assembly point to gather at in an emergency and they were given very helpful tips on what to do in case of a fire.

The students then had great pleasure in watching the fire engine in action. They got to hear the siren, find out what the different controls do and they were extremely excited to see the water hoses spray high in the air. This was a very enjoyable and fun filled afternoon for our Prep grades and they all walked away with very valuable information.

Aileen Traynor
Prep Teacher

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**YMCA**

**YMCA Point Cook** is running a Spring School Holiday program with heaps of awesome activities, including Healesville Sanctuary, Hoyts Movie and Bowling, Disco Day, Bootcamp Challenges and more! Bookings open on 19 August, for full details and to book, visit: [www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au](http://www.childrensservices.ymca.org.au)
Book Week

From the August 18th-22nd the Point Cook College Community is celebrating Book Week. As part of the celebrations, the Year One students have the opportunity to watch a full scale theatre show of The Little Mermaid performed by the Alpha Shows theatre group. This will be an exciting way to enhance their learning of Narrative texts this Term.

Year 1

On Friday 22nd August in celebration go the end of Book Week, all Year Two are invited to dress up as one of their favourite book characters. This event is free, however ..... Be it The Cat In The Hat, Where’s Wally or even The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Students need to take into consideration the weather when dressing (e.g. bring a coat) and wear shoes appropriate for playing outside.

Year 2

Teaching in Year 6

Reciprocal teaching is not about reading the chapters in a book quickly and answering comprehension questions. It’s about developing students thinking, through conversations to enhance their understanding of a text. After introducing the Reciprocal Teaching technique early in the year and revisiting the format at the beginning of the term, students were placed in groups, over two classes. The Year 6s are now into their second week of reciprocal teaching. Students are placed in seven groups over two classes with four sessions dedicated to reading in the week. The books are aligned to the students’ needs as well as extending their conversations within the group. Students take turn in leading the group following the Reciprocal Teaching format. The format includes making plausible predictions about what they will read, clarifying any unknown words while they are reading, writing thoughtful questions as they are reading and summarising the passage read using the summary format. Discussion is the most important aspect of Reciprocal Teaching. This is enhanced through the students sharing their predictions, using their prior knowledge and writing thoughtful questions. Challenging each other’s’ thinking such as ‘Why do you think that?’ adds to an in-depth conversation in the groups. Making students become better and more thoughtful readers is a journey well worth pursuing. “The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr Suess

Trish Fauvre}

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**Book Club**

The Year 8 students are currently engaged in gender based book clubs. The program enables students to choose their reading material based on interest. From their choices, students have been grouped and they complete an agreed amount of reading for home learning each week. At school, students pose questions to each other, discuss their reading, clarify their own and others’ understandings and make notes on their group conversations. Students have been using the Google Drive App to record summaries as a group and to provide evidence of their contributions towards group conversations.

**Eastern Barred Bandicoot Group**

Some of the year 4’s and the Eastern Barred Bandicoot group were lucky enough to participate in their first ever live conference with the Werribee Zoo! The students were amazed at seeing people on the smart board talking directly to them. The students were confused at first as to how they could see us and talk to us, but they soon got the hang of it.

The students were virtually taken on a walk around the Eastern Barred Bandicoot enclosure at the Werribee Zoo to see where they live and even got to meet a real bandicoot! They learnt about how and why the bandicoot has come to be critically endangered and talked about some of the things we can all do to help.

On September the 10th a group of year 4 and 5 students will be spending a day at the zoo, learning about the bandicoots and being sustainable, so we will be sure to keep you updated with how that all goes.

Lauren Roman
To get rid of lice you have to stop them breeding

**Steps for treating head lice**

**Step 1 Detection**
Comb hair conditioner onto dry, brushed hair
Divide hair in small (3-4cm) sections
Combs sections 3 or 4 times
Wipe onto a paper towel
Look for lice and eggs

**Step 2 Treatment**
Use a licensed or registered product
OR
Use the comb and conditioner method every 2 days until no lice are found for 10 days

**Step 3 Check for resistance**
If an insecticide has worked the lice will be dead in 20 minutes
After this time check
Are the lice moving?
No the product has worked
Yes the product has not worked

**Step 4 Retreatment**
Reapply the product 7 days after the first treatment
For heavy infestations, retreat 7 days after the second treatment

**What if the lice aren’t dead?**
Lice resistance cannot be predicted
- retreat as soon as possible using a product with a different active chemical

**Nothing works...**
The four reasons for treatment failure are:
Inadequate application
Lice are resistant to the chemical
Failure to re treat
Reinfection

If you are having difficulties start at the top of the list and work down.

**Remember these points:**
Always check for live lice before treating
No treatment kills 100% of the eggs
Re treat 7 days after the first application
Test to make sure the treatment has worked and change products if necessary
Head lice can be controlled but it takes a systematic approach.
Myths about head lice
Kids with lice scratch or itch
50% don't
Head lice jump or fly from head to head
Head lice can't jump or fly
Lice live in carpets, beds and clothes
Lice live only on heads

More myths
One treatment is enough
One treatment will not get rid of lice
Everyone in the family should be treated
Treat only family members with live lice
Some products prevent head lice
Tie long hair back and check for lice regularly
Head lice are selective about their home
Head lice like all hair – clean, dirty, long, short...

Some facts
Eggs are laid close to the scalp
They hatch after 6 or 7 days
There are 3 nymph (baby) stages before maturity (adult) which is 10 days after hatching
Lice live for about 30 days spending their entire life on the human head
Females lay 3 to 8 eggs per day

More facts
Head lice are easy to kill
In two schools with at least 50 cases of head lice in each 1000 hats were checked and no lice were found on them
In a primary school where 7000 lice were found on children's heads none were found on the carpet.

The great escape
Few lice ever fall off the head
Those that do are probably about to die
If healthy lice fall they generally die quickly.