DATES TO REMEMBER

September
8-12th  - Art Exhibition Week
8-9th   - Prep Ambulance Incursion
8th    - Mt Rothwell Excursion 3A, 3B, 3C & 3V
10th   - Kids Teaching Kids Program
         - Art Exhibition Open Day (4.30-6pm)
11th   - Yr 6 Cabaret Show (7-9pm)
12th   - Yr 7 Winter Sport
         - Yr 4 Assembly (2.30-3pm)
15th   - Yr 3 Werribee Open Range Zoo Excursion
         - Yr 6 Debate 9-11.30am (Al-Taqwa College)
16th   - Yr 9 F1 Car Excursion (11.20-1.20pm)
         - Yr 5-9 PT Interview (3-7pm)
17th   - Primary Divisional Athletics Carnival (Hoppers Lane Track)
18th   - WMR Secondary Athletics (Landy Park Geelong)
         - Yr 1 Assembly
19th   - Footy Day (School State Relief)
         - Subway Lunch Date
         - END OF TERM 3 (FINISH 3PM)

Subway Dates September
          Friday September 19th

Principal News

It has been an extremely busy fortnight since the last Newsletter with many teaching teams conducting incursions and excursions to provide rich learning experiences for our pupils. Many of these activities have been captured and recorded on the College website.

I would like to welcome two new staff members to the College: Susan Ross who will become part of the LOTE Indonesian team and Ellen Taylor who will be replacing Jo Fisher who is on maternity leave.

Both Susan and Ellen have extensive experience working at the College over the last couple of years.

Our Biennial Art Exhibition will be held next week. The BIG official opening is on Wednesday 10th September 4:30 – 6:00pm with the award presentations taking place at 5:00pm. The quality of work produced by our students under the guidance of our incredibly talented Art/Craft team is amazing! I hope you can make a time to drop in and enjoy this wonderful celebration of creativity and imagination.

Happy Father’s Day to all the dads in our community. Hope you all have a relaxing day and get spoiled by your families – which of course you deserve!
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

P-4 Community

As the end of Term nears it is pleasing to note the upbeat tone amongst the students with no doubt the many happenings around the College contributing to this. Last week we wound up our Book Week celebrations with our Year 2, 3 and 4 students participating in the very entertaining visit from Author Justin D’Ath and ended the week with a favourite – Subway lunch day. This week has seen Father’s Day stall visits and I’m sure there will be many excited dads out there that can’t wait to see what goodies have been carefully and lovingly selected for them. Once again thanks needs to go to Gina O’Keefe and her dedicated group of parent helpers who do their utmost to ensure the stalls run smoothly and nobody misses out.

Today there have been a number of Father’s Day celebrations in the Junior school and it’s always great to see fathers and grandfathers up at school taking some time out to enjoy some special attention. Today has also been a busy day in the Year 3 and 4 areas with both holding their year level assemblies. These are proving to be quite popular with the students, especially those who have the opportunity to organize or present at the event.

On Monday some of our Year 3s are heading to Mt Rothwell and of course our Art Exhibition week kicks off with the Art Show not to be missed on Wednesday.

On behalf of the College I would like to wish all the dads and granddads a very Happy Fathers’ Day and hope you get thoroughly spoilt.

Eyesight Check Ups

During the recent School Nurse check ups it was noted that there are a significant number of students who have been identified with potential eyesight concerns. We have been asked to remind parents that these check ups should be conducted regularly as vision can deteriorate every few years and can inhibit students’ academic progress and general well being. Eyesight check ups are conducted by an optometrist, take around 10 minutes and can usually be bulk billed via Medicare. There are two of these located at Point Cook town Centre. If your child has not had their eyes tested recently we would recommend you do so, particularly if older siblings are already wearing glasses.

Victorian Child Oral Health Survey (VCOHS)

The VCOHS will be conducted at PCC on Friday 24th October and Friday 7th November. The State wide survey will help provide a snap shot of the oral health of children from across Victoria. Students from the College who have been randomly selected to participate are reminded that the consent form and questionnaire sent home recently needs to be returned via mail using the Reply Paid envelope by 17th October.

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 Prep at the end of next week 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.

Years 5-9 Community

NAPLAN 2014 National Assessment Program

As mentioned in the previous newsletter NAPLAN student reports have arrived earlier than initially anticipated. On Thursday all parents of students in Years 3, 5 7 and 9 who participated in the testing received a report. The report was sent home with students in sealed envelopes. The individual student report was accompanied by an information sheet which assists parents in understanding the report. Please note that the school does’ t have copies of these reports as the data is presented to schools electronically and in different formats. I therefore ask you to store these reports in a safe place as re-ordering reports can take some time.

Interim Reports/Parent Portal

A reminder to all parents in Years 5-9 that Interim Reports will be available on the Parent Portal this Friday 5th September after 4pm. Furthermore, a reminder that parent teacher interviews are on Tuesday 16th September. The Portal is accessible from the new college website.
**Experiential learning opportunities**

Students in the Middle Years have been involved in a wide range of experiential learning opportunities to support their learning. We look forward to reading about these wonderful opportunities throughout this and later editions of the newsletter. In this edition we have reports on the Year 9 Melbourne Experience and the Year 5 excursion to Sovereign Hill. I would like to congratulate the teaching teams and all students involved for organising and participating in such successful events. On behalf of the staff I thank you, parents and guardians for supporting these programs.

Lastly, I would like to wish all the dad’s in the Point Cook College community a great Father’s Day. Put your feet up and enjoy the day!

Frank Vetere

**Administration**

**Family Invoices**

All families should have by now paid their outstanding invoices unless arrangement has been made with administration.

If not finalised 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.

**FUNDRAISING**

Thank you to all of our parent helpers who contributed to making the Father’s Day Stall and Raffle such a huge success. Melinda Centofani, Marie Lawrence, Jamy Sims, Nikki Flood, Beena Virdi, Julie Leech, Jody Rogers, Mandy Roberts, Joan Putter, Sue Plant and Sharon Moore. Whether they stapled hundreds of notes or sold thousands of dollars of merchandise we thank you for your efforts and such a big job could not be done without you.

**CHOCOLATE DRIVE**

Money is now due, can all money or unsold chocolates be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you

**ART EXHIBITION**

The 2014 PCC Art exhibition is next week. 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.

Gold coin donations will be accepted on behalf of Kid’s Help Line.

**Point Cook College Footy Day 2014**

**Date:** Friday 19th September

Students can come to school dressed up in the colours of their favourite football team!

e.g. soccer guernsey, footy jumper, scarf, rugby team colours

Gold coin donation for State school’s relief fund
Year 9 Melbourne Experience

Last week students in Year 9 participated in The Melbourne Experience. This event was conducted over 4 days and students were involved in a variety of activities that supported curriculum studied during the term and familiarised themselves with Melbourne’s CBD and the public transport network.

The teachers were thoroughly impressed with the behaviour and enthusiasm of all students over the four days as they visited locations including The Shrine, Eureka Skydeck, ACMI, the Melbourne Aquarium, the MCG and a number of Melbourne Museums. The final day saw the students compete against each other in The Melbourne Scramble; an Amazing Race type activity where students work in teams to solve clues, visit various locations around Melbourne and collect the highest number of points to win.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff who made the Melbourne Experience possible, as well as the students for their wonderful representation of our College in the wider community. We look forward to seeing the program continue to develop and be an exciting, rite of passage for our Year 9 students.

Megan Blackman, Year 9 Team Leader

Some reflections from our students:

The Year 9 Melbourne Experience went for a duration of four days and consisted of various activities, depending on the group, and ended with the Melbourne Scramble on Friday. There were four groups; Animals and the Environment, Art, Science & Technology and Sport. To commence the Experience on Tuesday, the Year 9s went to the Eureka Tower and the Shrine of Remembrance. This directly correlated with their studies in History and everyone had a fun time. The middle two days (Wednesday and Thursday) involved visits to Scienceworks, the Botanic Gardens, the National Gallery of Victoria, the MCG, Melbourne Aquarium and Melbourne Museum. On Friday, students participated in the Melbourne Scramble where they solved problems and competed to get the most points by implementing different strategies. Overall, it was an exciting, educational experience and everyone finished the week with a smile on their faces.

Reece Hodges, 9MB

On the 26th of August the Year 9 students of PCC began their Melbourne Experience. Over the period of four days, students visited attractions and popular monuments around the city. The Year 9s got the opportunity to experience the Shrine Of Remembrance, Eureka SkyDeck, the Melbourne Scramble and a cultural lunch of their choice. They were given the option to choose one of four activity groups all consisting of different places to visit (art, sport, animals and science). On the last day of the experience, the students raced against time to reach as many checkpoints as possible located around the city using the clues provided during the Melbourne Scramble. The Melbourne Experience was an inventive way to get to know the city whilst learning about historical events. Over the course of the four days, the activities and events conducted were very rewarding. It gave a deeper insight, and greater understanding of the city and its attractions.

Ruby Bovdis, 9LB

SOVEREIGN HILL EXCURSION

On Monday the Year 5 students and teachers made the long trek out to cold and icy Ballarat, to experience what life was like in the 1800’s on the Gold fields at Sovereign Hill. The school day was extended. We left the College at 8:30am and returned at 4:00pm to maximise student learning time.

Students benefited from having a 50 minute education session where they participated in activities such as role playing. Students were given certain roles such as troopers, diggers and bankers. Students did their best to find gold in certain areas, under the strict conditions from the troopers-some were even sent to jail!

Students also participated in a 20 minute gold pouring demonstration where they learnt the procedure of how pure gold was poured, melted and then turned into a solid. They also learnt the value of one 2.7 kilogram gold block-It was worth $135,000 dollars!
Afterwards students roamed around Sovereign Hill with their teachers and leaders. Students experienced things such as old fashioned bowling, mining underground, panning for gold and striking it rich, what life was like for the Chinese people on the Goldfields, shopping for lollies and chocolate, being exposed to historical buildings and people in the 1800’s.

Justin D’Ath’s presentation to the year two students had strong links to our Writers Notebook Program which focuses on narratives and student writing skills. The aim of the program is for students to become independent writers and move through the writing process of planning, recording, revising, editing, conferencing and then publishing. Justin spoke about the process of getting a book published and that it takes only 3 weeks to write the first copy but then a year before it will become a published book. This presentation was engaging and we can’t wait to see the creativity it sparks in the students.

The Australian Sharemarket Game with Mr Roberson

An exciting event is happening with interested Year 6 students. The Australian Sharemarket Game has started and it will be running for 13 weeks taking us into Term 4.

Students are given a virtual $50,000 to invest and the challenge is to make it grow. Students will be playing in real market conditions and select stocks from the S&P/ASX 300.

On Thursday 21st August students bought their shares. Syndicates have been formed and are working from a plan that they have developed.

Some are buying vigorously whereas others have a more cautious approach with many in between.

As students play the game they will learn about investing, buying and selling shares, creating a share portfolio, testing their strategies to possibly win $1500!

Watch out for a progress report from our syndicates!
Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge

We have 16 students this last fortnight who successfully complete the 2014 Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Congratulations must go to:

- Pari Bang PK
- Samanyu Srivastava 1F
- Sam Smith 1B
- Omar Kayin 1J
- Mason Ryan 1K
- Seth Richards 1M
- Cooper Hamilton 3A
- Mahalia Senense 3C
- Aron Santos 4J
- Mark Putter 5P

- Srivatsav Muduganti 3A
- Yeju Lee 1J
- Brooke Bowden 1M
- Virgil Senense 1M
- Theo Katsouranis 4B
- Paulina Nikolaeva 4R

Some students have some books that have not been confirmed as being read so please do so as a matter of utmost urgency so these can be verified. The website closes on Friday the 19th and no further data can be entered after this date.

The Online Honour Roll comes out in October and the certificates are to be delivered in November. More information will be given as it comes to hand.

Pop Up Park

The "Pop up Park" was used for the first time by the Year Prep EAL group last week. The "Pop Up Park" was created by the Year 9 Pathways group "Living Landscapes" last Semester and comprises of planted garden trugs and chairs, bean bags and toys that children use for literacy experience. The Preps enjoyed creating stories with the toy dinosaurs and reading in the warm sunshine on the bags. The "Pop Up Park" creates a portable outdoor learning space and is timetabled for classes to book.

Robyn Cairns
Environmental Science Teacher