DATES TO REMEMBER

October
20th  - YMCA Kinder Visit (11.20-12.30pm)
21st  - Digital photography and Marine biology excursion (Melb Zoo)
22nd  - Year 5 & 6 Sandridge lifesaving club excursion (10.30-12.30pm)
        - Year 7 & 9 Immunizations (12.30-1.30pm)
        - College Council Meeting (7pm)
24th  - Pink ribbon day
        - Oral health survey check ups (P-9 Conference Room)
        - Year 9 theatre performance (11.20-1.20pm)
29th  - Year 7 YMCA (Lake Dewar) camp departs
31st  - Year 7 YMCA (Lake Dewar) camp arrives at the college (approx. 2.30pm)
        - Year 9 Psychology Excursion (Melb Museum)
        - Year 4 assembly (2.30-3pm)

Curriculum Day
Monday 3rd - November (Report Writing Day)
Tuesday 4th - November (Melbourne Cup Public Holiday)
Subway
Friday November 14th
Friday December 12th

Principal News
Welcome everybody to the last term of 2014. A quick look at the College calendar reminds me how busy it will be. We are well into planning for the 2015 school year. I remind any families who have not yet enrolled their 2015 Prep child to do so immediately as staffing and resource allocations need to be confirmed as part of our budget processes. If you know your child/ren will not be returning to Point Cook College next year please inform the College as soon as possible, again to assist with staffing and resource allocations.

Monday 3rd November (day before Melbourne Cup public holiday) is our final Curriculum day for the year. It is a pupil free day therefore parents are asked to make alternative arrangements for their children on this day.

There have been several reported cases of children at local schools being approached by strangers on their way to or from school. Staff have been made aware of the need to reinforce the steps taken by children if they are confronted by a stranger. I ask families to also discuss this with their children in an open and honest manner and ensure your children know what to do if a situation should arise. As always I ask families to advise both the College and local police if your child reports something to you.

Point Cook College is a Sun Smart school therefore students are asked to wear an appropriate hat when outside. Our PE staff are reinforcing this message during their lessons. College hats are available at the office for $15.00.
Prep to Year Four Assistant Principal’s News

For many of us it is extremely difficult to believe that it is the last term of the year! Term 4 is a very busy term for all students and teachers. There are many happenings in this term, so please ensure you know when things are happening for your child at school. Here are some important dates for this term:

Monday the 3rd November – Curriculum Day (students stay at home)
Tuesday the 4th November – Melbourne Cup Public Holiday (students stay at home)
Wednesday 19th November – 2015 Prep Information Evening 6.30pm
Tuesday the 25th November – Year 2 and Year 4 Concert
Monday the 15th December – Prep Carol Concert 2pm

Please make sure you put all of these important dates in your calendar or up on your fridge so as you do not forget about them. Thank you.

Term 4 started off on a very good note with many children in Prep to Year four attending the school disco yesterday. The prep and year one students attended the disco from 2pm until 3pm. The Year two, three and four students attended the disco from 5.30pm until 7pm. This year the disco had a Hollywood Theme and it was great to see the children and staff dressed up in costumes that depicted this theme.

Two of our teams have already had Incursions or Excursions this term. On Tuesday the 7 October, the Year Two team had a very special visit from Professor Bunsen. He did a variety of exciting experiments with the children to tune them into their Science Inquiry unit for Term 4. On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, all the Year One students went on an excursion to the Werribee Mansion to tune them into their Inquiry unit about the history of Point Cook.

Marg Holness
Assistant Principal P-4

Year 5-9 Assistant Principal News

Science Fair

On Thursday 9th October, the Science Department and the Year 8 team successfully launched (pun intended) the au-gural Point Cook College Science Fair. The students and staff impressed parents, students and staff with amazing displays and experiments covering all the different sciences. Speaking to all the student presenters it was clear that they were exceptionally prepared and proud of their learning and displays. Students were able to articulate their learning confidently and to a large audience. I would like to congratulate all involved and in particular Ali Ryan, Sophie Jean and Debra Bednarek (The Science Faculty) for their exceptional work.

Further Selective Entry High School Success

In the last newsletter I congratulated two students select-ed for enrolment in Selective Entry High Schools. I am pleased to announce that Shaheer Mahar of Year 8B has also been selected. Places in selective entry schools are highly sought after and very few places are made available across the entire state. We wish Shaheer ongoing success in 2015 and beyond.

Information evening for Year 5 families

On Tuesday we held an information evening for Year 5 parents and students focusing on:

• Middle Years Teaching and Learning Program at Point Cook College
• Specific focus on Year 7-9 at Point Cook College
• 1 to 1 iPad program beginning at Year 7
• Student presentations of learning
• Home school partnerships

We also invited Mr Darryn Kruse, the new Principal of Point Cook Senior Secondary College, to speak with families about the offerings at Year 10 – 12.

The evening was a huge success and we were extremely proud of our students who articulated their learning elo-quently and also answered questions from parents. Congratulations Adam Coustley, Issac Orchard and Noah Napier from Year 7, Tamara Douthat and Caelyn Montalto from Year 8, Ruby Bovdis and Sarah Plant from Year 9.
**Administration**

We are currently sending Family Invoices to all families who have student requisitions outstanding. This charge is to supply your children with all their stationary requirements for the year.

If you wish the college to continue to supply stationary and consumables for the classroom, art supplies, LOTE and other specialist subjects this amount must be paid by no later than 31st October 2014.

If you are having difficulties making the payment please contact the office.

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**Pink Ribbon Day 2014**

Dear Parents/Guardians

On Friday 24th October there will be a whole college Pink Ribbon dress up day. Students can come to school dresses up in pink or red.

Students are welcome to being a gold coin donation with all money raised on the day going to support the fight against breast cancer. We are looking forward to a great day and hopefully beating our 2013 total of $3527.41.

There is merchandise currently for sale at the office from Monday 13th to Friday 24th in addition, the Year 6 students will be going to each class to allow students to purchase merchandise to support this worthwhile cause from Monday 20th to Friday 24th. Items available for sale are pins, bag tags, bangles, wristbands, key rings and teddy bears with prices ranging from $3-$10.

Gina O’Keefe

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**Bali, Bali, Bali-EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**2015 Bali Tour**

After a very interesting and exciting meeting, expressions of interest are now being sought from current year 7-8 students for the 2015 Bali tour. The dates for the tour are from September 6th-15th. The approximate cost is $2100.00. Expressions of Interest forms can be obtained from the office, from Mr. Frank Vetere or from Ms. Jenny Hayes. Forms must be returned to the college by Monday 27th October 2014.

If you have any questions about the trip please feel free to call the college to speak to one of us.

Thank you,

Frank Vetere
Jenny Hayes

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**HELP!!**

Mrs Freeman needs your help.

Last year 2F and I created a vertical garden, which is currently located next to the Wetlands.

Our design had a few holes in it and my current class and I are hoping to give it some TLC.

We are asking for a collection of 500g/1kg sized coffee, milo or baby formula tins please.

We are hoping to get at least 50 tins to replace the milk bottles that we used, which have broken down in the sun and have been falling off the wall.

I am located in room 10, in the main building, if you have any tins for us!

Thank you, Mrs Freeman : )
Yr 3 Werribee Zoo Excursion

Monday 15th of September was a very exciting day for Year 3, with 4 bus loads of buzzing students heading to the Werribee Zoo as part of our Inquiry unit for this term. Year 3 had a wonderful hands on opportunity, looking at endangered local species and ways that we can work towards protecting these fragile creatures and their habitats. Students discussed differences they can make towards the human impact with building of communities, cleaning chemicals, introduced animals and plants, using cat collars and selecting biodegradable products.

Students loved the chance to view all the variety of local and African animals. There was plenty of excitement as they boarded the safari tour and saw a giraffe, Moroccan wild horse, rhinoceros and zebra. More highlights from the students’ feedback included the serval presentation, the Gorilla feeding, patting the local frog species and getting up close and personal with some marsupials. A massive thank you goes out to our Year 3 team for a fantastic day and our incredible parent helpers that assisted us on the day.

Amy Van Braam
Yr3 Teacher

Yr 1 Excursion Werribee Mansion

As a part of next terms Inquiry unit, ‘What is the History of Point Cook?’ the Year 1 students had a visit to the Werribee Mansion over two days. Students were able to look at the way Point Cook has changed over the many years. Students were given the opportunity to explore the fascinating lifestyle of the Chirnsides and their servants. Overall it was a fantastic few days.

Yr 7 Health Days

All Year 7 students participated in a Teen Health Special Program. This program was their core Health learning this term. The focus of the program was on providing students with an understanding of some of the key health concerns for young people in relation to drugs and developing students' knowledge of teen focussed health resources.

The program was launched with guest speakers from HeadSpace, The National Youth Mental Health Foundation and also included sessions on smoking, alcohol, drugs and an investigation into accessible health resources for teenagers. Students took this learning and identified a range of teen health concerns, including peer pressure, risk taking behavior and finding someone to talk to. The final element saw each student create an "In case of emergency" poster that outlined actions young people can take when they, or a friend or family member, is faced with a health concern. These were shared across the group.

All students received a 'take away' resource pack that maybe one day will be useful for them or a friend.