**Dates to Remember**

**November**
- 18th - Year 9 Pathways (Parent Information Night 7-8pm)
- 19th - College Tour (2015 Prep Enrolments 5.30-6.30pm)
  - Prep Information Evening (6.30-7.30pm)
- 25th - Year 2-4 Concert Williamstown Hall (7-9pm)
- 26th - Year 8 Camp Departs (Anglesea Recreation)
- 28th - Parent Helper Morning Tea
  - Year 8 Camp Returns (Anglesea Recreation)

**Subway**
- Friday December 12th

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**Principal News**

I had the pleasure of attending the Year 5 Camp for three days this week. It was a wonderful opportunity to engage with excited students and motivated, professional staff. The camp had many highlights for students (and staff) based around “first time experiences and challenging yourself”. It was highly evident the amount of planning that had gone into the camp to ensure its success. Congratulations to all staff and students involved.

We had a break-in on the week-end prior to the Melbourne Cup. Police and security attended however the thieves made off with a quantity of i-Pads. The College insurance covers the replacement cost however the inconvenience caused by curriculum i-Pads being stolen is enormous as it takes many hours to set up the learning programs. If anyone hears of “cheap” i-Pads for sale in the local community please report it immediately to police as they have our serial numbers for the stolen i-Pads.

With the warmer weather on its way I remind parents to remain diligent when your family is around water.

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Unfortunately there are numerous drowning s in back-yard pools in Victoria each year. It is our responsibility to keep an eye on our children while they are swimming to ensure they stay safe.
**Prep to Year Four Assistant Principal’s News**

Already we are half way through the final term of the school year and plans for 2015 are well underway. Everyone is working tirelessly to ensure that the year ends on a positive note and to celebrating hard earned achievements. It is important to keep in mind that as the end of the year approaches it is easy to become complacent about routines and responsibilities and we need to work together to ensure we provide a safe and supportive learning environment for everyone. Teachers are firmly entrenched in Report Writing mode and End of Year Reports will be available for viewing via the Parent Portal on the second last Friday of term. To access the portal you will need to use the password provided to you earlier in the year.

The Year 2s and 4s have been practising diligently for the end of year concert and I for one cannot wait to see the finished product on the night. Over the past two weeks we have welcomed our 2015 Preps into the College to participate in the Prep Orientation Program and they have taken to it like ducks to water. The program is designed to make the transition to school process as smooth as possible and it is pleasing to have so many of them able to participate in the experience.

This week we have also welcomed Ms Stephanie Walker back to the College after 12 months study leave as Prep K Homeroom teacher to replace Mrs Kang as she begins her family leave. We wish Mrs Kang and her family all the best. On this note I would like to address some of the highly inappropriate comments from parents doing the rounds on social media and within the school grounds. Standard College practice when a teacher is to be replaced is to advise the relevant parents in writing as soon as details have been finalized, usually one to two weeks in advance. Unfortunately on this occasion I neglected to print and distribute the prepared letter prior to Mrs Kang’s departure and I take full responsibility for this oversight. Communication however is a two way street and I would like to remind parents that when concerns arise they need to be dealt with in the appropriate manner by approaching the College directly where you will be provided with accurate information. The use of social media as a tool to vent frustrations and make defamatory comments is not tolerated from our students and we as adults need to lead by example.

Over the coming weeks there are a number of end of year excursions to look forward to as well as the Prep Christmas Concert afternoon, so please make sure you keep an eye out for notes and on the website for updates and reminders and mark these on your calendar.

Robyn Fincher
P-4 Assistant Principal

**Prep Information Evening and College Tour**

New families are reminded that a College tour will take place next week on Wednesday 19th November at 5.30pm followed by our Prep Information evening at 6.30. If you have not returned your attendance slip please do so on Monday to assist with organization for the evening.

**Students Not Returning**

To finalise organization we need to know how many students will be with us in 2015. If your child will not be returning to PCC in 2015 please advise the office as soon as possible in writing.

**Lost Property**

There is currently a large amount of clothing and personal belongings in lost property and we suggest if your child has misplaced any of these to start checking as all items not named or claimed will be discarded during the last week of school.

**Missing Books**

The end of year stock take will be commencing soon and we are keen to keep lost resources to a minimum. Now is a good time to search high and low for any books that may belong to the College and return them to the Resource Centre or your child’s homeroom.
Year 5—9 Assistant Principal’s News

Middle Years Assistant Principal Report

Road safety message
As part of my newsletter article I will regularly place a road safety tip specifically related to traffic safety around schools. I trust that these will remind us of our responsibility to work together to ensure student arrive to school and home in the afternoons safe and sound.

Wyndham City – Youth Resource Centre
I recently met with representatives from the Wyndham City Council and was informed that a new youth resource centre has opened operating out of the Point Cook Community Centre, Cnr Main & Cheetham, in the Town Centre. This is very exciting news as it provides our youth an opportunity to access services that were previously only accessible in Werribee and Hoppers Crossing.

I have attached to this newsletter a flyer promoting a weekly service on Friday afternoons. We look forward to working closely with the Youth resource centre in meeting the needs of our youth and providing students with opportunities to interact with their peers outside the school setting.

SAFEMinds
I have attached to this newsletter a brochure inviting members of the community to attend a SAFEMinds: AT HOME, Parent/Guardian information session.

The College Executive have all attended the SAFEMinds workshops over the past few months and we believe that it is a worthwhile initiative and therefore encourage parents and guardians to attend.

Emotional distress affects children and young people and school communities every year. This may include mental health issues such as anxiety and depression and self-harm behaviours. These issues have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of children and young people, including their educational, development and wellbeing outcomes.

To support school communities to effectively identify and respond to the mental health needs of children and young people, the Victorian government has partnered with headspace, the National Youth Mental Health Foundation to deliver SAFEMinds: Schools and Families Enhancing Minds.

Read the attachment and go online to find out more.

Remembrance Day 11th November
I would like to congratulate the entire College for their reverence during the Remembrance Day Service on Tuesday. Every student and staff member assembled in the Gymnasium and participated in a beautifully conducted service led by Year 9 students. Ms Blackman performed the Last Post and the Reveille on an instrument called a cornet. Students from across the college laid wreaths on behalf of their year levels. Students and staff who were on the Year 5 Camp also paused to Remember. We welcomed Mr Jerry Sanders a returned Vietnam War Veteran.

Woolworths Featherbrook Opening
On Tuesday 28th October Mrs Roper and I had the pleasure of representing the College at the Grand Opening of Woolworths. The College and Woolworths have begun a strong partnership that will further enhance the local community. Both Woolworths and Point Cook College are excited about the many learning opportunities this partnership will provide.
Sustainability News

Point Cook College are assisting the Eastern Barred Bandicoots at the Werribee Zoo in a number of ways. Last term members of our school’s Green Gang represented the school at the Werribee Zoo’s Sustainable schools day. The students were the asked to name and sponsor one of the new Eastern Barred Bandicoot arrivals - they chose the name “Bandit”.

Last Thursday zoo education officer Genevieve Johnson visited the college to give a presentation on Bandit’s progress. Bandit is currently being relocated to Melbourne Zoo to find a breeding partner.

Year Preps – 5 cent challenge

As part of their Inquiry learning, Prep students are investigating the Eastern Barred Bandicoot and have been donating 5 cent coins for the “5 cent challenge” which raises money for food, water and care of the Eastern Barred Bandicoots in the breeding program at the Werribee Zoo. We will inform you of their total money raised soon. This greatly supports the work of the Green Gang and becomes a cross age learning experience to assist Biodiversity projects at our local Werribee Zoo. A big congratulations to the Preps for all their hard work.

School Wetlands Birds

We have a vast number of species of animals now inhabiting our school wetland. Birds which have been sighted include a Pacific Heron, White faced Heron, Buff Banded Rail and Pacific Black Ducks.

Frank Vetere
Assistant Principal
First Aid

FIRST AID
CHICKEN POX
The College has had a number of reports of confirmed cases of chicken pox. Please read the following information carefully and if you have any concerns please see a medical practitioner.

For chickenpox, the time from infection to the appearance of the rash (incubation period) is around 14 to 16 days. A few days before the appearance of the rash, the person may feel feverish and have a sore throat and headache. The skin may be marked for some months after the rash has cleared.

Your medical practitioner can usually diagnose chickenpox by looking at the rash and asking questions about the person's medical history.

Children with chickenpox are excluded from school for at least five days after the rash appears. A few remaining scabs are not a reason for continued exclusion. Children with shingles can attend school if the lesions can be covered adequately however exclusion from swimming and contact sports should be advised for seven days after the rash appears.

All the above information has been taken from the Better Health Channel and Dep. Of Health Vic. For further information please refer to the links below.


HEADLICE

Head lice have been reported to the College - please check, and if necessary treat your family for head lice. There is no need to treat everyone if no head lice are found but you need to look for the head lice.

If you find head lice in your family please tell anyone who has had head to head contact with the family member and report it to the College.

As the hot weather approaches please remember to slop on the sunscreen, make sure your child has a sun smart PCC hat which is part of the college uniform and most importantly provide your children with refillable water bottles.

HOT WEATHER

As the hot weather approaches please remember to slop on the sunscreen, make sure your child has a sun smart PCC hat which is part of the college uniform and most importantly provide your children with refillable water bottles.

Lost Property

We have a scooter at the office. If you have lost one please come to the office to claim it.

PE News

Western Metropolitan Region- Secondary Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to Jasmine Sparks who placed 2nd in Shot Put at the WMR Athletics Carnival on Thursday 18 September. Jasmine threw a strong 9.00meters only 65cm behind the winner. Well done Jasmine we are very proud of you!
EAL NEWS

Dear Parents,

The EAL Team wish to inform you of a new blog page built especially for all EAL students at Point Cook College. We are trying out the site for the remainder of this term to find out how often it is used by the students.

We would love it if you could log onto the site with your child and have a look at what is available. There are some links to excellent sites as well as videos and games aimed at specific year levels. Please feel free to leave some feedback or suggestions for improving the blog.

The address is: http://ealpcc.global2.vic.edu.au/

Please note that you need a password to enter the site, this is to ensure it is extra safe for our students. The password is EALpcc.

Thank you very much for looking at the site with your child,

Yours sincerely,
Anne MacKelvie

Australian Mathematics Competition 2014

Over the past few weeks we have celebrated the successes of our 2014 champions in the Commonwealth Australian Mathematics Competition. We had one hundred and fifty five students compete against students across Australia. Today we acknowledge the efforts of our students across Year 3 to Year 9 awarding our champions with certificates for their efforts in this competition. We celebrate two high distinctions, eighteen distinctions and fifty six credit and fifty eight proficiency awards. Year level assemblies were held to celebrate individual and group achievements. All students received certificates for their achievements and we congratulate them individually and collectively for their efforts.

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Our Gold, silver and bronze champions for 2013 are:
Year 3: 1st Brandon 3A, 2nd Dinethra 3G and 3rd Junho 3EC.
Year 4: 1st Riva 4B, 2nd Daniel 4F and 3rd Jason 4F.
Year 5: 1st Daniel 5P, 2nd Kishore 5P with Annie 5O and Botond 5P receiving bronze for equal third.
Year 6: 1st Brian from 6F, 2nd Smit 6A and 3rd Thwanka 6A.
Year 7: 1st Shehrin 7E, 2nd Tanishq 7DS and 3rd Noah 7DS.
Year 8: 1st Rubina 8G, 2nd Thanushri 8F and 3rd Zachary 8K.
Year 9: 1st Jack 9MB, 2nd Eryn 9MB and 3rd Soreti 9LB.

Congratulations to all students who competed at Point Cook P-9 College.
Mr Roberson.

PCC 1st Stockmarket Challenge.

Congratulations to our Year8 and Year6 teams that competed against students across Australia in the Share market game for 2014.

Interested Year 6 students and Year 8 students competed against students in Year 3 to Year 12 to develop an understanding of how S&P/ASX 200 works. They discussed and develop strategies and skills in buying and selling shares through a safe and secure site at S&P/ASX 200. They investigated, made decisions on and developed strategies to purchase shares from the start of trade through August, September and concluding at the end of October.

Students were given a virtual $50,000 to invest and the challenge was to make it grow. Forty-five Year 6 and Year 8 students created twenty-three syndicates that learnt to buy and sell shares to maximise profits in a virtual stock market game. Students purchased shares in syndicates working through a series of lessons to develop an understanding of how the share market works, the language used and formed strategies of how they were going to create success in the purchase and sale of shares. Some used strategies to buy vigorously whereas others used more cautious approaches with many syndicates working in between.

As students played the game they learned about investing, buying and selling shares, creating a share portfolio, testing their strategies to possibly win a range of prizes offered through the share market game.

Congratulations to all our syndicates.

Congratulations to our PCC school champions for 2014.
1st Jacynat 6A and Gracie 6H.
2nd Daniel 6F and Ivan 6F.
3rd Brian 6H.

Thankyou
Mr. Roberson