

**TERM 1**

30/01/2015

27/03/2015

TERM 2

13/04/2015

26/06/2015

TERM 3

13/07/2015

18/09/2015

TERM 4

05/10/2015

18/12/2015

Dates To Remember

April

27th - House Team Pep (2-2.45pm)

28th - Yr 9 Photography Excursion (National Gallery Victoria)

- Yr 9 Psychology Excursion (Melbourne Museum)

-Yr 9 Forensic Pathways Excursion (Vic Police Museum)

30th - AFL Umpiring Course

May

1st - Anzac G'day theatre performance (Yr 3 at YMCA)

-Yr 4 Scienceworks Excursion

3rd - AFL Umpiring Course (Game Day Melb vs Freo) 1-4pm

5th - Outdoor Education Pathway Camp departs

-Prep Inquiry Incursion

-Prep Toy Incursion

6th - Mothers Day Stall

7th - Primary District XC (Saltwater Reserve)

-Mothers Day Stall

8th - College Photo Day (Prep-Yr 6 and family portrait's)

-Secondary Divisional Cross Country (Cherry Lake Altona)

-Newsletter Issue 8 released

From the Principal's Desk

A very warm welcome back. I hope that you have had a great break and are refreshed for another great term at Point Cook College.

Before I continue I would like all readers of the newsletter to consider sharing and discussing the contents of all newsletters as a family or within the broader community. The purpose of the newsletter is to share information but more importantly celebrate learning and promote the wonderful aspects of our great community. It is a great way to listen to your child read and talk about about their school.

I would like to introduce two new staff members who have joined us this week. Firstly, Ms Nicole Henderson, who is replacing Ms Farrugia in Yr. 1 and secondly Mr Daryl English who is acting in place of Ms Bernadette Cronin our Middle Years Assistant Principal who is on leave for 4 weeks then participating in a Principal Preparation program for another 4 weeks. Mr English comes to us from Truganina Primary School.

We wish you both a very enjoyable and successful time at Point Cook College. I know that the entire College community will make you feel welcome.

Improvement to grounds around the College.

You will have noticed that there is a fair bit of work taking place around the College. The resurfacing of the playground on Tom Roberts Parade has finally been completed and I appreciate the children were eagerly waiting to use the equipment. We are currently developing the outside space around the Year 3 and 4 Neighbourhood and creating a passive space with seating for students to use at recess and lunch close to the Science building. Furthermore, we have approved a concrete walkway to the Year 5 and 6 portables from Ponsford Drive. Again we appreciate your patience; I have been informed that the work will be completed in the coming weeks.

College Captains

On Monday I had the pleasure of chairing a panel to appoint our very first College Captains.

It was a rigorous process where students submitted a written application and then attended an interview with Mrs Fincher, Ms Blackman and myself. During the interview students were required to take the panel on a tour of the College followed by a formal interview. I am very proud that every applicant did their very best and are worthy student leaders. The panel did however have to make a decision and we are proud to announce our very first Point Cook College Captains.

Lachlan Mc Neilly
 Tamara Douthat
 Rubina Singh



On behalf of the entire College community we wish you the very best and look forward to working with you and promoting student voice at Point Cook College

100 Years of ANZAC

Point Cook College values commemorative education. As a community we traditionally commemorate ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day with whole school services honouring our fallen and departed Australian or Allied service veterans no matter when or where they served or died. Furthermore, Point Cook College has very strong historical links with the RAAF as Point Cook Primary school serviced the RAAF Williams base since 1923 prior to moving to its current site as a P-9 College.

This year's ANZAC commemorations represent 100 years since our forefather's left Australia to fight in WW1 alongside our allies for a free world, sadly many never returned. Because of this milestone we are committed to providing our students and the broader community with deeper insights into the significance of ANZAC day and what the 'ANZAC Spirit' means.

In the two weeks leading up to ANZAC day all students and staff have participated in a range of activities immersing the community into the true 'ANZAC Spirit.'

We have created our very own poppy field and also begun work on a permanent commemorative garden.

Today the College commemorated ANZAC day with a formal service in the Gymnasium. Some special guests attended the service:

Mr Matt Dunkley – Regional Director South Western Region Department of Education and Training

The Minister for Health and Ambulance Services - the Honourable Jill Hennessy

Our College Principal – Mr Michael Hayes

Ms Kylee Brealey - College Council President

Ms Heather Anton - Network Coordinator Student Support Services Hobsons Bay South Western Region Department of Education and Training

Mr Daryn Kruse – Principal of Point Cook Senior Secondary

Ms Fay Lunn – Laverton Rotary

Ms Desma Nott from our sponsor Peter Davey Toyota

Mr Lyle Raison – Werribee RSL

Mr Raymond Everett – Korean War Veteran

Mr Andrew Skeels- Former College Council member and President

Ms Irene Norman – Former College Council member and President

Mr Steven Brealey – Husband of Kylee Brealey and active Reservist

Mr Nick Schmit – Parent Member of College Council

Mr Craig Brockhouse – Parent Member of College Council

On Sunday 19th I proudly marched down Watton street Werribee with students to commemorate ANZAC day. I would like to thank and congratulate:

Jack and Emma Brennan, Phoebe and Riley O'Keefe and Kira and Tarkyn Findlay





On Saturday morning I will be attending the Dawn service accompanied by Kylee Brealey our College Council President. We will be laying a Wreath on behalf of the College Community.

Lest We Forget

Frank Vetere

Assistant Principals News

Prep– Year 4 Community News

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all students to a very busy term 2. There will be many exciting teaching and learning events during this eleven week term. The first very important learning being undertaken by all students now is ANZAC Day and what it means to all of us. We look forward to our ANZAC Day Commemoration Ceremony which will be held on Friday. I encourage all parents/guardians to read all newsletters, so as you are aware of all the exciting experiences happening across the prep to year 4 grades. I especially look forward to seeing all the exciting activities planned by our teaching teams to help mums celebrate the very special Mother's Day.

This is also a reminder to all parents of students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 that Naplan Tests will be conducted on the 12th, 13th and 14th May 2015. Please read the attached newsletter for further information about Naplan.

Tuesday 12th May – Language Conventions and Writing

Wednesday 13th May – Reading

Thursday 14th May - Maths

Naplan testing takes place in the mornings; therefore it is important students are on time those allocated days.

This year the entire College will be participating in the MS Readathon. In 2013 the grade three and four students took part in this and it was a great success. Point Cook College was the highest fundraising school in Victoria, raising \$4918.00. With this in mind, we thought it would be a wonderful opportunity for students to read and raise money for a very worthwhile cause at the same time. Last year, with support from many schools across the country, approximately \$300 000 was raised. This money helped out in the following ways:

- 35 000 hours of specified therapy including occupational, physical and social
- 13 social support days
- 300 spots in the MS peer support program

- 8500 advisory sessions through MS Connect
- Ongoing renovations to three residential facilities
- 90 face-to-face education sessions
- 3000 respite days in fully supported accommodation
- 2500 hours on in-home respite
- Up to 1000 pieces of equipment to assist people in their workplace.

As you can see this certainly is a very worthwhile cause and it would be great to see Point Cook College involved. We have arranged for the MS Ambassadors to come to the College to give our students more information. Please read this newsletter every two weeks, to get updated information.

A reading quote to ponder over:

Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counsellors, and the most patient of teachers.

Marg Holness

Assistant Principal P - 4

ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING AT PCC

This week I attended a Departmental professional development day with a focus on improving student attendance. The day was extremely informative and highlighted the importance of maximizing student attendance in order to ensure students are engaged and moving forward in their academic, social and emotional growth. Improving attendance has featured heavily in the development of our Strategic Plan and given that attendance concerns were highlighted as a focus in the last newsletter, the professional development was not only timely but particularly relevant to PCC. We will be doing significant work with our community in developing understandings and practices in relation to attendance over the year and will keep our parent body in the loop through appropriate communication channels.

At the back of this newsletter you will find flyers containing parent courses and opportunities that have come across my desk in the past few weeks. Please take the time to browse and refer to that appropriate contact information if interested.

Robyn Fincher

Engagement and Wellbeing Assistant Principal.

Administration

Family Invoices

At the commencement of each term every family with outstanding student requisitions are posted home their family invoices. This includes families who are on a payment plan so they can keep track of their balances. There are a number of families who have outstanding balances from previous years. If these families have not arranged a repayment plan with the college they will be contacted.

We are able to receive part payment for the student requisitions and included in the statement was details of our bank account so families are able to EFT any payments. Payments can also be made at the college via cash, cheque EFT or credit card payments. If you are unable to come into the college payments by credit card can be made over the telephone.

If you are having any difficulties making payments please contact the college.

Home Group Names

As we have had a number of staff changes recently please be advised of the following Home group name changes.

4EB changed to 4M – Mr Neil Mitchell

2M changed to 2H – Mrs Ineke Heeremans

1F changed to 1NH- Ms Nicole Henderson.

Please try and include your child's home group on all notes including subway orders and bookclub orders being returned to the college. The home room name is normally the year level together with the initial of the teacher's surname - as demonstrated above. (If there are two teachers' whose surname commence with the same initial the first name initial is also included to differentiate the groups) Please also ensure that your child's name is clearly written.

College Photos Friday 8th May.

All students will have received a student envelope with their name printed on it. These envelopes are to order individual photos.

If you require a **family photo** (your children's photo taken together) these are separate envelopes and can be collected from the office. All envelopes must be received prior to the 8th May otherwise parents will need to deal directly with the Leading Image contact details on envelope.

Sport NEWS

Year 6 Interschool Sport

On Friday 20th of March approximately 80 year 6 students competed against students from other schools in the district in one of four sports; cricket, softball, rounders or basketball. PCC sent out 7 teams on the day, and finished the day with 4 teams winning the championship. Both boys and girls basketball teams won all their games, the boys softball team finished the day on top with 3 wins and a draw and the girls rounders team won their grand final in a close result. We also had two teams place second and a team place 4th. The results display the hard work the students and their teachers put in during weekly training session during Year 6 sport time.

Congratulations to all students that represented the college on the day.



Year 7 Interschool Sport

On Tuesday the 17th Of March, approximately 50 year 7 students represented the college across a variety of sports. These sports included cricket, tennis, volleyball and softball. All students competed to a high standard and represented the college well.

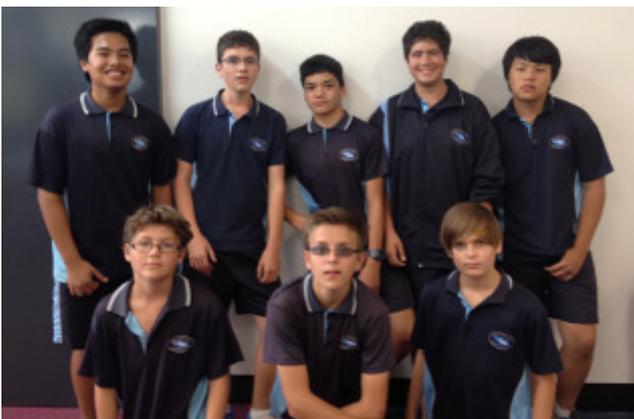
Congratulations to the boys volleyball team that were successful in their tournament and took out the 1st place penant. These students will continue to develop their skills in an effort to compete strongly at the regional finals.



Year 8 Interschool Sport

On Friday the 13th of March, approximately 40 year 8 students represented the College across a variety of sports. These sports included cricket, tennis and volleyball. All students competed to a high standard and represented the college well.

Congratulations to the boys volleyball team that were the premiers in their tournament. These students will continue to develop their skills in an effort to compete strongly at the regional finals.



Secondary Regional Swimming Carnival

We have had some more massive sporting news at PCC, with one of our year 7 girls winning her race at the Regional Swimming Finals yesterday (Thurs 26th March). Sophia Potter from 7T swam a time of 37.56 secs to win her 50m Backstroke event in the 12/13 yr old girls category. With this achievement, Sophia gained entry into the State Championships held at MSAC on Wednesday the 15th of April. This is a massive accomplishment and one that we have not had at PCC for some time.

Alongside Sophia's 1st place in backstroke, she also placed 2nd in her 50m Breaststroke event and 3rd in 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly.

Sophia has been swimming since she was two and a half years old and currently trains with Jayden Brian as her coach at the Wyndham City Sharks. Her training consists of 4:30am sessions for two hours at a time, 4 times per week. The words commitment and dedication come to mind when we hear these kind of facts.

Sophia says, 'Thanks to my mum for all her help and support and for all those early morning starts'.

Congratulations on your achievements Sophia and PCC wishes you all the best at the State Finals!



Winning: Sophia Potter dominates her events at the Regional Swimming Carnival.

State Swimming Finals

On Wednesday the 15th of April, we had two students compete at the State Swimming Finals held at Melbourne Sports and Aquatics Centre. It is a massive accomplishment to compete at the state finals as it means you have won races in the previous divisional and regional finals. It does not occur often and we congratulate both Sophia Potter and Lachlan Dosser for being so successful in the lead up to the finals.

Lachlan swam in the Multisport category in the event of 50m Backstroke. He placed third in his race however after adjustments due to level of disability, he ranked 4th.

Sophia swam a personal best in her 50m backstroke event and finished 5th with a time of 36.23 secs.

We wish both Lachlan and Sophia continued success in their future swimming career and hopefully they can compete at the State Finals again next year; maybe even win a medal!



ANZAC MARCH 2015

On Sunday the 19th of April, Mr Vetere and six students represented Point Cook College in the Werribee ANZAC March. Those students were Emma Brennan 4R, Jack Brennan 1JF, Kira Findlay 6AW, Tarkyn Findlay 4R, Phoebe O'Keefe 5P and Riley O'Keefe 4M.

They enjoyed taking part in the march. Kira, Emma and Phoebe laid flowers at the cenotaph on behalf of the College. Here are their thoughts about the march.

Emma : I really enjoyed the march and I felt responsible when I helped to place the flowers at the cenotaph. I loved the march because it was fun and I felt proud of the soldiers.

Jack: I liked walking in the march. I thought about the soldiers and how they went to war.

Riley: At the ANZAC march I was a bit nervous but mostly proud. The march was down the main street of Werribee. There were lots of people watching us.

Phoebe: At first I was really nervous and there were more people that I expected. Once I started walking I started to feel proud of myself. Later on in the march I got to lay the wreath with Kira and Emma, it was really fun and I wasn't nervous anymore. I was sad when the march was over but the march ended at the RSL and all the kids got a free sausage in bread. I saw some of my Girl Guide friends and also some friends that went to Scouts because they were in the march too.

Tarkyn: I was scared seeing the Army soldiers with their rifles.

Kira: It was special seeing all of the soldiers marching. I felt special being chosen to be at the march and to carry and lay the flowers.

Parents' Group

Last term we held a successful morning tea for Harmony Day where families had the opportunity to meet other parents from the College community. We have continued with a parent group that now meets every fortnight. All families are invited to attend not just those who came to the Harmony Day morning tea. If you know of other parents who may like to come please let them know. Younger children are also welcome. This information is also available on the College website.

The group meets every fortnight alternating between Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings. The next session will be on **Friday 8th May at 9-10am**. Please enter through the main entrance and sign in at the office.

The other planned sessions for this term are:

Wednesday 20th May - 2-3pm

Friday 5th June - 9-10am

Wednesday 17th June - 2-3pm

The purpose of the group is for families in the College community to come together and meet other people. There will be an opportunity to discuss different topics or issues that parents would like to know more about. Guest speakers will be arranged too. There will also be opportunities to assist with projects around the College.

For further information please contact Rebecca Thornton rebeccathornton@pcc.vic.edu.au

FUNDRAISING NEWS



SUBWAY FUN LUNCH

SUBWAY lunch orders have been a very wonderful fundraiser for the college as well as providing an alternative lunch option for our students. We need to ensure the ordering process continues to run smoothly and we are asking for your help. All orders need to be completely filled out especially with the Child's first and last name as well as class (ie.3A) not to mention their choices also. We do our best to ensure they are complete before they leave the college, however with so many orders some slip through and go to subway. They have informed us that

If the order doesn't specify a six inch or a footlong, the child will automatically receive a six inch.

If the order doesn't specify a type of side, the child will automatically receive an apple.

If the order doesn't specify a type of drink, the child will automatically receive a water.

We do not allow any Macadamia nut cookies, as a health and safety rule for school lunches in regards to allergies etc.

We tend to add any extra salads requested, as we like to encourage children to eat healthy, however we cannot provide alternative meats.

Thank you for your cooperation

Subway Fun Lunch Days for term 2

Friday April 24th

Friday May 22nd

Friday June 26th

MOTHER'S DAY STALL and RAFFLE

(Dad's Don't Forget)



The Mother's Day stall will be held at the College on **Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th of May** at the canteen.

Students from all year levels will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for their loved ones 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.

To add to the fun we will be having a Mother's Day Raffle. The hamper is full of wonderful gifts to spoil mum with including 1 of everything for sale at the stall. 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 May 7th

**If you have some time to spare on these days to help sell the merchandise please email me and I can give you the details.

Thank you,

Gina O'Keefe

Community Liaison Officer

okeefe.georgina.f@edumail.vic.gov.au

Host Families Needed For New Exchange Students in 2015

Many girls and boys aged between 15 and 18 from exciting countries like Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Brazil, Norway, Sweden, Argentina, Finland and Austria are hoping to come here to study for 3, 5 or 10 months from July this year and stay with a volunteer family that is willing to host and welcome them and can afford an extra member at the family table. If you feel you could do this for them for the length of their stay or even some of it, please contact Klaus Schumann on (03) 97584279 and let me know of your interest.

Yours sincerely,

Klaus Schumann, WEP Community Coordinator

Loyalty Program



SERVICE: Trade pricing on all parts & service procedures on any vehicle excluding all capped priced service plans.

SALES: When any Peter Davey Motor Company vehicle is purchased, customer will be given a \$250 voucher that can be used for any purpose within the dealership. i.e.: Service, parts, car care and accessories. A further \$200 will be donated to Point Cook P9 College for every vehicle purchased.



Dear Parent/Carer

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2015 for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held on Tuesday 12 May, Wednesday 13 May and Thursday 14 May 2015. NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in Writing, Reading, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals which can be used to improve student achievement.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. During test week, catch-up tests will be available for individual students who are absent on test days. These students may undertake catch-up tests on the days in the test week after the scheduled test, up to and including Friday 15 May 2015.

Support can be arranged for students with disabilities, if the student regularly uses similar support for classroom assessment tasks.

Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students that require them.

Exemptions may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for support due to disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with his/her teacher prior to the tests. Parental consent is required before any support due to disability or exemption is granted.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the relevant Assistant Principal. If, after consultation, you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal form. These forms are available at the school.

Later in the year you will receive your child's personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child's particular skills in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

I am confident that the information you receive as a result of your child's participation in the NAPLAN tests will be valuable in helping you to assess your child's progress in literacy and numeracy.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAP website at www.nap.edu.au

Yours sincerely

Mr Frank Vetere