INAUGRAL S.R.C.

Student Representative Council (SRC) representatives for 2015. Sabahat Rexhep, Molly Dyson, Bianca Bonanzinga, Yasemin Erden, Melanie Abdeen, Caitlin Stefanovska, Harris Zervakis, Thomas Cardwell, Jonathan Ciminelli, Aaron Bahamondes, Jayden Vella

Absent: Zachary Sgarligia

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Year 12 students enjoyed participating at the swimming carnival held at Oak Park Aquatic Centre on Monday 9th February was a great success. Congratulations to Parmelia House who won on the day. Congratulations also to all students who attended for their participation and support. More photos of the many activities and events on page 4 of this Newsletter.
More great news from last year’s year 12 cohort
I have already spoken about the great outcome in terms of tertiary placements from last year’s year 12 group. I was delighted to be visited by two of our students last week to be informed that they have both been awarded scholarships to cover their entire university fees and support with other expenses. Both scholarships are worth $75,000 over their degree. In congratulating them I also want to thank the Pathways team at school who put a great deal of effort into bringing such possibilities to the attention of students throughout the final year.

Start of Year
It is always good to get through the administrative side of the start of year and have students down to work quickly and we did that again this year. Nearly all students had their locker by recess on the first day and classes were underway. We are fully staffed and our final enrolment numbers will be very marginally above those of last year. I would like to welcome all new students to the College and of course their families to our College community. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new staff to the College this year:

- Mr Ryan Bowler (English)
- Ms Allie McAllister (Health/PE)
- Mr Al Ouchtomsky (Vis Com/Art)
- Ms Justine Scicluna (Maths/Science)
- Mr Jay Sloman (Chemistry/Maths)

We also welcomed Ms Liz Viscio back from leave in 2014. I would also like to thank Ms Chloe Barbopoulos for her service to the College. Chloe resigned at the end of last year.

Facilities
We have now opened our new student co-ordination and wellbeing area. This will provide greater centralisation of our wellbeing and student management staff and will also enable students to meet with the staff in a more confidential and supportive manner. In addition, the building works on the far side of the oval will see a new storage, scoreboard and coaching facility which will be primarily used by Taylors Lakes Recreation Club. The project has been funded by the Club alongside Brimbank City Council. On completion later this month the shipping containers adjacent to the cricket nets will be removed. I am continuing to work on two other facilities issues. Our work on the design and fit out of the Foods area continues and further investigation is being carried out on the underlying issue with the gym floor before this can be very significantly repaired or the floor replaced.

Student SRC
One of our priorities for this year has been to implement a Student Representative Council across the College. This was put in place at the end of last year and the initiative is already very much up and running. I want to congratulate the 12 students who will head up this group this year and I look forward to working closely with them on issues and ideas that they raise with me for consideration. We already have a strong leadership program across the College and I see this SRC initiative is further boosting student voice within the College.

The University of Melbourne Network of Schools (UMNOS 15)
This year we shall be joining this network of schools across all sectors of education in working with some of the leading researchers within Education based at the University of Melbourne. This is very exciting work and will involve a team of our staff and where necessary the sharing of ideas and work between a group of schools across the state. The group will meet at the University for the first time this year next week. I shall provide more updates on this program as it develops.

Emergency Plans
We have an extensive Emergency Plan in place at the end of last year and the initiative is already very much up and running. I want to congratulate the 12 students who will head up this group this year and I look forward to working closely with them on issues and ideas that they raise with me for consideration. We already have a strong leadership program across the College and I see this SRC initiative is further boosting student voice within the College.

Communication
We do use electronic communication for sending out a range of information throughout the year. Compass is also used for this purpose as well as direct email. Parents have live access to student attendance for your own child, on a period by period basis, including any lateness to class via Compass. I would ask parents to ensure that we are updated whenever an email address changes. Newsletter links will also be sent out electronically, however the Newsletter will still be available in paper format from the front office.

Student Tutoring
We often receive requests from parents to access tutoring for their children. On occasions such services will be advertised through paid advertisements through the Newsletter. In addition, some past students of the College who are now at University are advertising and these notices are put on display in the VCE Study Room and Library. Of course we cannot endorse any particular provider.
A Uniform reminder
Every year, as soon as the weather starts to cool off a little in the mornings we have students wearing new jackets and jumpers to school and taking them off during the day. Regrettably they are often left in the yard or classrooms and are commonly unnamed. Please ensure that all jackets and jumpers have a name inside them to enable speedy return. In the case of a jumper we recommend that the student’s name is written on the inside of the jumper behind the logo. The items are far too expensive to lose yet this does happen every year. Please label!

College Council Elections
The details about the election for the 2015 College Council are included with this newsletter. I would like to thank all members of the 2014 College Council for their contribution to the College, especially Graeme Watkins for his leadership as President.

Thankyou to all of the 2014 Council members:
Current Non DE&T Employed Parent members
Shan Ali, Greg Allen, Nicole Cross, Sarandra Evans, Sarina Hill, Georgia Maximos

Current DE&T employed members
Sasha Mildenhall, Marian Robinson, Joanne Pullens, Danny Dedes

Co-opted members
Sabahat Rexhep, Stefania Valerio, Graeme Watkins, Lisa Blakeborough

Executive Officer
Geoff Pell

The 2014 Council will meet for the final time this Wednesday evening.

As indicated in the notice at the end of the newsletter, nominations are now called for the 3 vacant parent positions as well as the 2 vacant DE&T employed vacancies. Nomination forms are available from the office and must be received as follows:
Nominations called for Tuesday February 10th (Newsletter notice)
Nomination forms are available from the office
Nominations close on Thursday February 19th 2015 (4 p.m.)

Should a ballot be required it will be conducted following that time, and would close at 4 p.m. on Thursday March 5th.

It is not necessary to include a nominator. People wishing to stand only need to sign the form themselves.

Absence Hotline
Just a reminder that any questions about absences should be directed to the hotline on 83909207. This can be used for notifying absences as well as any queries. Absences can also be signed off also by sending a note and depositing that in the box at the attendance office or by using Compass for approvals.

Payments at the Office
At this time of year the office is always very busy taking payments for various camps and excursions. I remind all parents that there are various means of avoiding queues at the office. Permission slips must always accompany payments.

- On Compass payments can be made electronically
- A drop box at the office counter for anyone wishing to pay by credit card or cheque can be used

Just a reminder that Office hours are from 8.15 a.m. to 4.15 p.m.

Financial Support
As mentioned in previous correspondence all parents should be aware that the previous state government made a decision to withdraw the Education Maintenance Allowance from the start of 2015. Some of the funds previously used for this purpose have now been allocated to some schools across the state. We have received some funding under this category and have made the decision to allocate this money to support families who do have a current Health Care Card in the payment of a small part of the essential fees and charges required during the year. This is only a system being put in place through this College. How schools allocate this money is determined by each school as the funds available to each school vary greatly. Any parent wishing to apply for this support in 2015 (and I encourage anyone with a current Health Care Card to consider this) is asked to complete a form at the general office by the end of February 2015.

Personal Property at School
We are instructed by the Department of Education and Training to notify all parents that the College or the Department is not responsible for personal belongings brought to school. This can include all personal property including books, phones, ipods, etc.

We request the support of parents and guardians in ensuring students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school, and that any such items brought to school are looked after at all times.

Student Injury
Parents and Guardians are reminded that the Department of Education DOES NOT provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and Guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. This includes students who may be injured during school or interschool sporting competitions.

In a first aid emergency we shall always call an ambulance should it be considered necessary by the treating officer in regards to the duty of care to the injured student. Fortunately this does not happen very often, however, we strongly recommend that parents do have ambulance cover for any such contingency as any costs in such a matter are passed to the parent.

Second Hand Books
Some students and parents did not collect their money for books sold in the last week of term, thus we shall provide a final opportunity on Thursday 12th Feb between 3-4 pm for students and parents to collect any money for unsold books. Money collection will be from the Conference Room in the office area.

Geoff Pell on behalf of the Principal Class
Danny Dedes, Lorne Anderson, Sasha Mildenhall & Louisa Norwood
SWIMMING CARNIVAL continued...
Over the last few years, Taylors Lakes Secondary College has organised a successful Parents and Friends Group. The parents at the college have consistently indicated willingness in becoming involved and more active participants in the college community. The views of parents are always welcomed and valued in trying to make the college the best possible learning environment.

To date, the Parents and Friends Group has been involved in areas such as fundraising, new college uniform upgrade, social events and supporting literacy and numeracy programs and second hand book sales.

The group is scheduled to meet at 9.00 am on the last Friday of each month, with the first of the meetings being held Friday February 27th 2015. This year the Parents and Friends Group will continue to hold evening meetings throughout each term for parents who are unable to attend the morning sessions. The first of the evening meetings will be on Wednesday, March 4th 2015 at 7pm.

Any parents interested in becoming part of the TLSC: Parents and Friends Group in 2015 are asked to complete and return the slip below to the college office as soon as possible. Further information about this group can be obtained by contacting Danny Dedes on 9390 3130 during school hours.

Danny Dedes
Assistant Principal

TLSC: Parents and Friends Group Reply Slip

Name: ........................................ Contact Number ........................................

Email: .............................................................

The proposed time and day for the ‘Parents and Friends Group’ Meeting is suitable: YES/ NO

If the proposed times does not suit, please indicate other possible options that will enable you to attend the ‘Parents and Friends Group’ meetings

Days: .......................................................... Times: ..................................................

‘Back to the 80’s’: School Production-2015

If you are a passionate singer, actor, dancer, or a musician and you want to have fun, build your confidence, meet new people and expand on your performance skills read on…

The musical ‘Back to the 80’s’ tells the story of the 1989 graduating class of William Ocean High as seen through the eyes of the narrator, Corey Palmer Sr., who is now living in the year 2001. The then 17-year-old Corey is madly in love with his next-door neighbor, Tiffany Houston, one of the coolest girls in the school. However, she barely notices this, as she is too busy drooling over Michael Feldman, the hottest guy around. A selection of some fun 80’s songs included in the musical are; ‘Footloose’, ‘Love Shack’, ‘Walking on Sunshine’, ‘Material Girl’, just to name a few.

Auditions for the school production of ‘Back to the 80’s’ will be held at the college on Monday 16th February from 3.30pm-5.30pm in PA1 and on Tuesday 17th February from 3.30-5.30pm in PA3. A sign-up sheet will be circulated during school time which will give you a chance to put your name down for an audition.

Performance Dates: Wednesday 26th August, Thursday 27th August, Friday 28th August

Be ready to have the ‘Time of your life’ and a memorable journey ‘Back to the 80’s’!

Ms Livia Fasulo
(School Production Coordinator-2015)
FROM THE NURSE

VACCINATION DATES 2015

19th March 9am – Year 7 HPV, Year 8 Boostrix, Year 10 Boostrix
27th May 9am – Year 7 HPV & Chickenpox, Year 9 Boostrix
7th October 9am – Year 7 HPV & Boostrix

ALL CARDS which will be distributed late February MUST BE FILLED OUT, SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE HOMEGROUP TEACHER WITH YES OR NO BY MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2014. Cards are NOT to be handed into the general office.

Three big changes to the vaccine program

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

1. The Brimbank Council’s immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccine program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose. Contact the school via email taylors.lakes.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au or alternatively call into the office and fill out a form by 28 February 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Brimbank Council.

2. In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.

3. The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form/s coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination go to immunehero.health.vic.gov.au

HOT WEATHER

During the hot weather it is important for everyone to remember to drink plenty of fluids throughout the day. Headaches can be caused by not having enough to drink during the day. Sunscreen is available in the sickbay for students use during the day. Please feel free to come and apply it.

Carmel Gusman
School Nurse

LOST PROPERTY—2015

Lost Property is located in the TECHNOLOGY WORKSPACE again this year. Check the window there if you have lost your keys BEFORE getting your padlock cut off, as it may be hanging there. To avoid this, name your keys, put them on a lanyard or attach a footy tag or similar so you can identify them if lost. Also give a spare key to your Homegroup teacher. Keys, school jumpers and jackets are the items most often handed in, so at approx. $90 each for the clothing items, make sure you have a name on yours NOW!

Parents and students are welcome to come to Lost Property before school, after school, at recess or lunchtimes and ask for MRS MINAHAN. A list of recent items in Lost Property is published in most Newsletters and regularly on Compass.

THERE ARE CURRENTLY LOTS OF SCHOOL JACKETS AND JUMPERS HERE IF YOU ARE MISSING YOURS. ALL ITEMS HANDED IN WHICH ARE NAMED WILL BE PROMPTLY RETURNED!

LOCKER CONTENTS FROM 2014

If you did not clean out your locker at the end of last year, please see Mrs Minahan (before the end of this term) in the TECHNOLOGY WORKSPACE or your belongings will be donated to charity.

CONFISCATED CLOTHING FROM 2014

See Mrs Minahan also in the Technology Workspace also (by the end of this term) to collect any clothing that was confiscated by a Coordinator in 2014, or it will be donated to charity too. Eg. ‘hoodies’, beanies etc.

Mrs Minahan
Teacher In Charge of Lost Property
SOCcer ACADEMY NEWS

Welcome to the Soccer Academy!

The College would like to welcome all new and returning Soccer Academy students to 2015! This year, the challenges ahead range from... Will the Year 8 Girls team successfully defend their State title? Can the FFV Girls FC champions repeat their success on a bigger stage, at the International Kanga Cup tournament? Will any teams win the State Futsal title again, qualifying them for the National titles in Brisbane? Will any of the boys teams taste success? Stay tuned to the Soccer Academy section of the newsletter for College soccer news.

The College would also like to thank Maurice Raponi from Pascoe Vale Soccer Store for sponsoring the program for 2015. All Soccer Academy uniform and general soccer equipment can be purchased through Maurice at PVSS, 403 Bell St, Pascoe Vale South. Phone: 9354 2791.

Mr Paul Castelli
Soccer Academy Program Co-ordinator

Invitation for parents and students in a PhD Research Project

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!! We are interested in your parents’ involvement in relation to your subject choices post Year 10.

Dear Later Year Students and their Parents,

You are cordially invited to participate in this research study Project.

“Parental influences on Asian and Mediterranean secondary school students’ aspirations to select science subjects post Year 10”

Excited!! Come along for an interview session arranged at a time suitable to you and your parent/s.

WHAT’S INVOLVED?

Individual interview – this may take about 45 minutes and will be arranged after school hours either at school library/classroom or meeting room at a local library as convenient to you.

The interviews with student and their parent participants shall take place separately arranged at separate timings.

Please note, your participation in this study is not a sort of assessment and unrelated to your academic progress. The sole purpose of the study is to understand how parental and cultural influences can affect your aspirations of subject choice.

COST: BRING YOUR SMILESJ and leave with a valuable experience!!

Need more information!! Contact the researcher by emailing or contacting Mrs. Kewalramani –

kewalramani.sarika.s@edumail.vic.gov.au We look forward to hearing from you and chatting with you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kewalramani (Taylors Lakes Secondary College)
Project Supervised by Dr. Sivaneswary Phillipson and Dr. Nishta Rosunee (Monash University). Project APPROVED by Department of Education and Training (DET)
What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category - members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.
Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term i each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.
Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of
Taylors Lakes Secondary College

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4.00 pm on Thursday February 19th 2015

The ballot will close at 4.00 pm on Thursday March 5th 2015

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</th>
<th>TERM OF OFFICE</th>
<th>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2017</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DET employee member</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Principal
Geoff Pell
Taylors Lakes Secondary College
10/02/2015
TAYLORS LAKES SECONDARY COLLEGE

COMING EVENTS

TERM 1
February
Wednesday 11th
College Council Meeting 7 p.m. (last meeting of current Council)
Thursday 12th
Second Hand Book Sale - money is available for collection between 3-4pm
Monday 16th
Auditions for ‘Back to the 80’s ’ 3.30-5.30pm
Tuesday 17th
VCAL BBQ and information evening 6pm-7pm
Mon 23rd—Wed 25th
Year 12 Study Camp to Camp Howqua
Friday 27th
Parents & Friends Meeting - Library 9 a.m.

March
Wednesday 4th
Parents & Friends meeting 7pm
Monday 9th
LABOUR DAY Public Holiday - School Closed
Wed 11th—Fri 13th
Year 7 Camp to Ace Hi Ranch
Wednesday 18th
College Council Meeting 7 p.m. (first meeting of new Council)
Thursday 19th
9.00am Year 7 HPV, Year 8 Boostrix, Year 10 Boostrix
Monday 23rd
(no scheduled classes but students are expected to attend the interviews with parents.)

Friday 27th
Last day of Term 1 (students dismissed 2.30 p.m.)

TERM 2
April
Tuesday 13th
First day of Term 2
Monday 20th—May 1st
Year 12 VCAL Structured Workplace Learning
Wednesday 22nd
Athletics Carnival (Whole School Event)
Tuesday 28th
Year 7, 2016 Info Night
Wednesday 29th
School Council Meeting

May
Friday 1st
PUPIL FREE DAY (to be confirmed)
Tues 12th—Thu 14th
NAPLAN testing for all year 7 & 9 students
Wednesday 27th
9.00am Year 7 HPV & Chickenpox Year 9 Boostrix

June
Mon 1st—Thu 11th
Year 10 exams
Mon 1st—Thu 11th
Year 11 exams
Wednesday 3rd
School Council Meeting
Monday 8th
QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY Public Holiday - School Closed
Tuesday 9th—June 19th
Year 11 VCAL Structured Workplace Learning
Wednesday 10th
GAT Exam
Friday 12th
Report Writing Day (no classes for students)

Friday 26th
Last day of Term 2 (students dismissed 2.30 p.m.)

TERM 3
July
Monday 13th
First day of Term 3
Thursday 16th
Year 12 Formal
Wednesday 22nd
School Council Meeting

August
Wed 26th—28th
School Production
Mon 31st—Sept 2nd
Year 8 Camp
Mon 31st—Sept 18th
Year 11 VCAL Structured Workplace Learning

September
Monday 7th
Parent / Teacher interviews
(no scheduled classes but students are expected to attend the interviews with parents.)
Mon 14th—Fri 18th
Year 10 Camp

Friday 18th
Last day of Term 3 (students dismissed 2.30 p.m.)
Thrur 24th—Fri Oct 9th
Japanese Trip

TERM 4
October
Monday 5th
First day of Term 4
Wednesday 7th
Year 7 HPV & Boostrix
Wednesday 28th
VCAA exams commence

November
Tuesday 3rd
MELBOURNE CUP DAY Public Holiday
Friday 27th
Last Day for Year 11 students

December
Friday 4th
Last day for Year 10 students
Tuesday 8th
Orientation Day (Grade 6 into Yr 7)
Thursday 10th
Course Confirmation Day
Friday 11th
End of Year Activities Program