Principal’s Notes

Reports:

Interim reports were distributed yesterday to all students. The reports give an indication of student progress at this stage of the semester. There will be an indication of completion of classwork, behaviour and general work habits that will provide a guide to how things may end up at the end of semester I in June. Full, more comprehensive reports with levels of achievement will be provided for each student at the mid-year. I urge all parents and students to look through reports and where necessary make the required adjustments to work habits to ensure the best possible achievement at the end of semester I.

Parent/Teacher Interviews:

Interviews take place next Thursday 3rd April from 4.00pm until 7.30pm with a break at 5.30pm for half an hour so staff can have some dinner. Interviews are extremely valuable at this time, along with the distribution of interim reports, because they provide the opportunity for parents to talk to teachers and ensure their son or daughter is on track to get the best achievement possible at the end of semester I. It is a chance to keep informed about work habits so that any adjustments can be made to help individual students. I urge all parents to take advantage of the opportunity to come to school, meet their child’s teachers and keep informed about progress. This is the ideal time. The end of semester is too late to adjust work habits, achievement levels will have already been measured and recorded.

All interviews will take place on the east campus to facilitate movement from one interview to the next. It is intended to have all staff available in the VCE Centre or Home Economics Centre.

Interview Appointments:

With the adoption of the Compass student management system we are going to offer parents the opportunity to make all their parent/teacher interview appointments online. Parents who cannot access the internet or who are not comfortable making their appointments online can ring 55722788 and our office staff will put their appointments online for them.

Instructions for making the appointments on Compass have been included with each report sent home. This system will give parents much more control over their appointments than the old paper based system that required students to find teachers and write all the appointments on a sheet of paper. This new system will also allow parents to run off a copy of all their teacher appointments to bring with them on the night. The system will also provide the location of the staff member.
Mark Byron:
Our participant in the 2014 National Constitutional Convention, Mark Byron, has returned to Hamilton after taking part in the convention in Canberra last week. Mark has included a report of his experiences later in this newsletter.

Attendance:
Student attendance levels were discussed at last Monday night’s School Council meeting. It was agreed by all council members to remind parents of the importance of attending school every day. Any absences impact the social, emotional and academic progress of students. On behalf of School Council I ask that parents only keep students out of school when absolutely necessary, especially when making appointments that could be moved outside of school hours. Small absence levels quickly add up to significant gaps in learning when added up over a few years.

School Council:
The last meeting of the current School Council took place on Monday night. This was the annual public meeting and was also the night the 2013 Annual Report was released. I would like to thank the members of the previous Council for their work over the past 12 months and look forward to beginning work with the new Council early in term II. I hope to announce the new Council members in next week’s newsletter if we do not require an election. Otherwise we will need an election and results will not be known until next term.

End of Term:
Term I ends on Friday 4th April at 2.30pm and students are not required back at school until Tuesday 22nd April. The first week back in term II will be a short 3 day week because Friday 25th April is the ANZAC Day public holiday.

Italian Visitors:
I would like to remind everyone that we will again be hosting a visit from a group of Italian students this year. They are to arrive at the beginning of term III and stay with us for 2 months. I have begun asking Year 11 students in particular to host a student. The advantages are many fold and can often lead to the offer of a stay in Italy with the family of the student that has been hosted. Please consider the advantages for your family seriously. I am currently taking names of interested families. Financial support will be available to cover increased household expenses.

**CASUAL DRESS DAY**
**Tuesday APRIL 1**
**Gold coin donation.**

The SRC are running a Casual Dress Day to Support School Sports Victoria in helping disadvantaged students participate and compete at regional and state levels.

**ANZAC BADGES** will be available for purchase at 50c each during Form Assembly in the last week of term.
Every day counts – school attendance

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher early as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

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National Schools Constitutional Convention 2014

Mark Byron

From the twelfth to the fourteenth of March I attended the Nineteenth National Schools Constitutional Convention in Canberra. This is a convention where one hundred and eighteen students from around Australia converge on Canberra to debate a specific aspect of the Nation’s Constitution. This year, the convention specifically looked at Federalism and whether the power to distribute water in the Murray-Darling Basin, the upkeep of hospital infrastructure, should be left with the states or be handled by the Commonwealth Parliament. This was our focus for three days and we had an extensive program of lectures and meetings to attend. As a special treat we went to the High Court on Thursday night for dinner. The High Court is indeed an impressive building and it was fascinating to see the place where our Constitution is interpreted and applied in practice. We also heard speeches from many politicians, including the President of the senate and the Speaker of the House. It was a wonderful three days and a truly excellent way to explore the nature of Federalism in Australia.
This week the Year 11 History class, on behalf of the Library, happily received the John Mackersey journals.

These journals, transcripts and stock records document the life of John Mackersey at his property Kenilworth in the Cavendish area from 1867 - 1875.

They provide a wonderful insight into local history.

The books were presented to the school by Mr Alan Brumley and his wife Margaret, who have had a long association with both Kenilworth and the project of getting these diaries published. We have very much enjoyed Mr Brumleys’s presentation and the context he provided for the books.

The books make for interesting reading and may be viewed in the Library.

Our thanks are extended to Mr & Mrs Brumley for the generous donation to the school.

Baimbridge students Patrick McGregor-Rhodes and Teah Cote are performing in the mOVe Symphonic Showcase concert on Friday 28 March alongside Orchestra Victoria musicians and other students from the area.

This is a free event, as well as being a great opportunity to support a fellow student.

So come along to the College on Friday 28 March to support our students at 6:30pm.
Baimbridge College
Proposed Tour of Vietnam and Cambodia;
Dec 2014.

In December 2012 19 students lead by Heather Ward, Steve Constantine, Kerren Collins and Hazel Saligari had the opportunity to explore Vietnam and Cambodia.

Our visit allowed us to gain a better understanding of the troubled history of both these nations. This was reinforced by our amazing guides who had firsthand experience of life under Pol Pot and the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia. We also experienced an amazing variety of transport from seeing Ankgor Wat from the back of an elephant to being rowed down the back waters of creeks in Vietnam. We had the opportunity to experience life both in the cities and in a rural community. Visits to schools orphanages and Bantay Prieb opened out eyes to the difficulties faced by many people in these countries.

The trip was full of amazing contrasts and will live long in the memory of all who took part.

This year Steve Constantine and I plan to take a new group of students to explore these countries

We will spend approximately six days in Vietnam where we will explore the underground tunnels that were used by the Viet Cong Guerrillas as hiding spots during combat, and visit the site of the battle of Long Tan, its memorials and the cemeteries that are located there. We will spend some time in Ho Chi Minh City where we are going to visit places such as, Notre Dame Cathedral, Opera House, Town Hall and the Reunification Palace as well as markets.

We then travel to Cambodia via boat along the Mekong River to Phnom Penh. Here we will visit the Russian Markets as well as being confronted by the reminders of Cambodia’s tragic history with visits to Toul Sleng Prison and the Killing Fields. Next we visit the village of Kampong Thom, where we will be introduced to the village life with a mixture of activities such as a bullock ride through the rural countryside, a visit to a home, traditional dancing, and teaching at a local school. We will also visit Banteay Prieb a place where people with disabilities are given skills that will provide them with a career.

Potentially the most exciting part of the trip is a two day visit to Ankor Wat Temples where we will explore the temples and look at Cambodia’s ancient history. We will even ride an elephants through the south gate of this complex.

We are holding an information session for students and parents to hear more about this exciting opportunity.

**When Monday 31st March at 6pm**

**Where VCE Centre.**

**Who Year 9, 10, 11 and 12** (Please note. Year 9’s will be able to go only if spaces are not filled up by students in higher years.) If you have any questions about the tour of Vietnam and Cambodia please contact Mrs Ward, or Mr Constantine on 55722788.
1. The Year 12 students have begun their interview process for the future looking at possible tertiary education pathways and alternatives. It is important for students to attend this provision as it is a function of the Careers Curriculum.

2. Interviews will be held for Year 10 students in preparation for their work experience in term 2. An information letter has been given to the Year 10s this week along with their Work Experience Arrangement forms. Parents are encouraged to assist their children in securing work experience placements.

3. The Australian Catholic University representatives will be addressing the Year 12s on the opportunities available at their institution on Monday morning next.

4. The Year 12s will have the opportunity to speak with many tertiary institution reps at the annual Tertiary Information Session on Tuesday next at Monivae College from 10.30 am.

5. Please refer to the job advertisement from McDonalds Hamilton elsewhere in the news letter.

6. Years 10, 11 and 12 students will attend a presentation from HILAC staff on careers in the swimming arena on Friday morning next.

Gerard Sheehan
Career Advisor

Did you know that there is a weekly Careers News published on our website every week under the Careers tab - under the “Our School” menu.

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**Sausage Sizzle**

Sausages $1.50  Soft Drinks $1.50

March 28th
West Covered Way
Fundraiser for World Vision Australia by Yr11 VCAL

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**Local Skills Global Future**

- Interested in being your own boss? Wish to start a business?
- Thinking of a job in a growing industry? Want to add sound business skills to your entrepreneurial flair?
- Are you an apprentice wanting to go out on your own? Looking to gain valuable skills during your gap year?

Your local learning incubator (200 Dollar Rd, Hamilton) currently offers programs in children’s services and community services in a supported learning environment and will soon offer programs in Small Business Management and Logistics.

We invite interested people, job agencies, industry and entrepreneurs to attend the information session to learn more.

**Certificate IV in Small Business Management and Diploma of Logistics**

- Where: 200 Dollar Rd, Hamilton (RMIT University)
- Time: 9-12 pm
- RSVP: smithhamilton@fcmilt.edu.au (by 28 March for catering purposes)

If you are unable to attend the information session, but would still like to receive more information please contact us using email address listed above.

A Co-operative Learning and Business Incubator Initiative

This project is supported by the Victorian Government.

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Our Year 12’s are a clean and tidy bunch. Cameron Delahoy shows us his moves with the vac this week........
Interesting.....

Blake Donhardt & Kyle Janicki dissected a cow eye in science on Wednesday this week.

Chips and Gravy were on the menu for the school last week with the VCAL students organising the event.
Dear Parent,

On recent school photo day several extra groups were taken. These groups can be ordered by returning this form along with correct payment to the school office by Friday March 28th - 2014.

Please indicate the groups you require from the list below

Student Leadership...Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
School Captains......Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Music Captains.......Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Standing Tall..........Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Supportive Friends....Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Peer Support..........Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Senior Choir.........Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Concert Band........Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Saxophone EnsembleQty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Stage Band..........Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
Rock Band...........Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
House Captains......Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  
String Ensemble.....Qty:...................at $20.00ea.  =  

Total:.........................

Frank Monger MSP Photography  
Mt Gambier  
0408 838688
NAB Hamilton Auskick will commence at Pedrina Park on Saturday 26th April at 9:00am concluding Saturday 28th June 2014. There will be no Auskick sessions on the Queen’s Birthday weekend Saturday 9th June.

Go to www.aflauskick.com.au to register. All registrations must be online and no cash will be accepted. The cost is $65.00 plus credit card fees. All participants that register and pay online before Sunday 13th April 2014, are eligible for the AFL Gameday Club Connect offer of four free tickets to selected AFL games. Auskick packs will be delivered to your home addresses and no packs will be distributed at Pedrina Park.

More details on posters around the school, forms at the West Office.
Come along and view the wonderful display of respect and remembrance from our many contributors to the Hamilton Library Poppy Project.

Where: Hamilton Library
105 Brown Street, Hamilton

When: 14th — 30th April 2014
Open: Mon to Wed 10am to 5pm
Thurs & Frid 10am to 6pm
Sat 9am to 12 noon, Sun 2pm to 5pm

U/12s Football 2014
Registration Days-Thursday 27th March
or Thursday 3rd April
@ 3.45pm – 5pm
Under Melville Oval Grandstand
Cost $25
For children in Grade 5 & 6
All players who played in last year’s U/12 competition MUST re-register, if they wish to play again this year.
Contact Robbie Cook 0407712498

TERM 1 CANTEEN ROSTER

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 24 – 28</td>
<td>Nicole Teasdale</td>
<td>Vicki Kearney</td>
<td>Kym Wood</td>
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<td>Aileen Broadbent</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 31 – April 4</td>
<td>Carol Titcombe</td>
<td>Lisa McIn-tyre</td>
<td>AM – Dianne Evans</td>
<td>Val Peters</td>
<td>Jo Bennetts</td>
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Starting Time 9:00 am. If unable to do duty as rostered please ring 5572 2788

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 21 – 25</td>
<td>Apr 21 Easter Monday</td>
<td>22 Gill Hiscock</td>
<td>23 Leanne War-</td>
<td>24 Sally Wheeler</td>
<td>25 ANZAC DAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28 – May 2</td>
<td>28 Jody Golding</td>
<td>29 Kerry Goodman</td>
<td>30 May 01 Lyn Duncan</td>
<td>02 Kerry Price</td>
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<tr>
<td>May5–9</td>
<td>05 Kym Wood</td>
<td>06 Vicki Kearney</td>
<td>07 Glenys Downes</td>
<td>08 Val Peters</td>
<td>09 Aileen Broadbent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12 –16</td>
<td>12 Lisa McIntyre</td>
<td>13 Tracey Sartain</td>
<td>14 Kate Mibus</td>
<td>15 Jo Bennets</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 26–30</td>
<td>26 Carol Titcombe</td>
<td>27 Genevieve Lambert</td>
<td>28 Leanne War-</td>
<td>29 Lyn Duncan</td>
<td>30 Jenny Leigh</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 2–6</td>
<td>02 Phyllis Speirs</td>
<td>03 Gill Hiscock</td>
<td>04 Glenys Downes</td>
<td>05 Val Peters</td>
<td>06 Kerry Price</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 9–13</td>
<td>09 Queens Bday Long Weekend</td>
<td>10 Kerry Goodman</td>
<td>11 Tracey Sartain</td>
<td>12 Aileen Broadbent</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 16–20</td>
<td>16 Phyllis Speirs</td>
<td>17 Vicki Kearney</td>
<td>18 AM – Dianne Evans PM –</td>
<td>19 Lyn Battista</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 23–27</td>
<td>23 Genevieve Lambert</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 Jenny Leigh</td>
<td>27</td>
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IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP IN ANY WAY PLEASE CONTACT ADIE.
IF UNABLE TO COME ON ALLOCATED DAY, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT

We thank you most sincerely for your support to the Canteen.
Many gaps to be filled if you can help!