Hospitality Success:

While I have been celebrating the success of 2014 dux Taylor Kearney in recent newsletters I have neglected to highlight the success of another of our students in their final 2014 results. That person is current School Captain Barbara Sealy who included cert II Hospitality in her studies while she was in Year 11 last year. Barbara achieved the highest mark in the state in her course last year for her Hospitality studies.

This result highlights the point I made with parents at the recent Transition information evening and then again at the Parent Tours of the school. That point is that Baimbridge College values and supports academic and vocational pathways for students and sees both as completely valid pathways for students to pursue. Too often vocational pathways have been seen as inferior and this is clearly not the case. They represent valuable and essential pathways in our community. We are proud to be able to provide quality academic and vocational pathways for our students and I am personally delighted to see our students enjoy such wonderful success in both.

Essendon Football Club Clinic:

On Tuesday this week we managed to successfully combine the taking of 2015 school photos with a football clinic run by the Essendon Football Club for our junior students. The clinic took place at Melville Oval with eight current players from the Essendon team running drills for students from the different primary schools in the district. The program was organised by Mr Jock Whiting and proved a great success with the students and the dedicated band of Essendon supporters of which I was part. Mrs Jen McArthur’s Sport Education students assisted the Essendon players to run their clinics and they received high praise for the manner in which they undertook their duties. Congratulations to all on an excellent day and thanks to Jock Whiting and the Essendon players for giving up their time to inspire our youngsters.

Emma Kealy MP:

Last Friday we welcomed our new Member for Lowan, Emma Kealy MP to the Hamilton District Skills Centre. We showed Ms Kealy around the classes running – Hospitality, Hairdressing, Automotive Studies, Building and Construction and our Visual Communication class. We hope that we have more success with our new member and new government in securing funding for the HDSC.

General Assembly:

Next Monday morning we are holding a whole school assembly with an international flavour. I will include details of the assembly in next week’s newsletter.
Insurance:
Unfortunately, even with our best efforts to avoid these situations, there are times when students will hurt themselves at school or may break or lose personal items. It is important that all parents realise that neither the Education Department nor Baimbridge College has insurance to cover these occasions. Therefore everyone in our community needs to know that:

- parents/guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs; and
- parents/guardians can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers

the Education Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property

Having made this point I would advise parents/guardians to take up Ambulance membership in particular because should a student hurt themselves, in an emergency we will ALWAYS err on the side of caution and call an ambulance for an injured child and the responsibility for payment will fall on the family not the school.

Parent Luncheon:
The new parent luncheon took place yesterday in the VCE Centre. I would like to thank all those parents who took the time to meet teachers and get to know some of the other parents from our school community. I would like to again welcome all new families to Baimbridge College and encourage everyone to keep in close contact so that we can all work together to support the education of our students.

Trivia:
Just in case you missed it, Baimbridge College is no longer run by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) our transformed ‘boss’ with the new government is now the Department of Education and Training (DET). That is a lot of stationery that needs changing!!

Parent Opinion Survey:
I was checking the results of the parent opinion survey that was distributed last year to find out what parents think and feel about our school and would like to thank those families that took the time to complete the form and send it back to be processed by the education department and the results sent to me. Unfortunately less than a quarter were returned which makes it difficult to get an overall picture of parental opinions so we will be providing another opportunity in the near future. We will be in contact soon with some specific questions we would like to have your opinion about. I look forward to reading what you have to say.

Student Computer Information:
This year all we have further expanded access to 1:1 computers with Year 11 and 12 students having the option to be part of our school supported program. Any questions regarding the induction meetings or the program can be directed to Mrs Kym Dempsey.

Along with the 1:1 computer program is the expansion of our online student management system Compass. There will be more information available to parents this year. Parents can log onto the system from the Baimbridge College website. This will also enable them to access their password. I can see a time in the future when student reports will be on Compass. Watch this space!!
School Captain Barbara Sealey who topped the state last year in her Hospitality studies.

This morning our swim team was heading off to Hughan Park to take part in the Glenelg Division Swimming Carnival, results next issue.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HOSTING AN ITALIAN VISITING STUDENT?

This year we will be hosting our Italian visitors from the Term 2 school holidays for approximately 2 months, the students are usually aged around 16 so year 11 families are ideal, but anyone can host. Hosting a student has so many benefits and every past host family has recommended the experience. Students have even gone on to visit their host “family” members after completing their schooling because of relationships formed. The College will assist with finances during your host period. If you are interested please contact the College on 55722788.

Our 2014 Italian visitors with Mr Vecchiet.
Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP)

The conveyance allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus.

Eligibility criteria

The eligibility criteria varies depending on the type of school attended and where it is located.

Students attending a government or non-government school must:

- attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible
- reside outside Melbourne’s metropolitan conveyance boundary
- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
- be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

Students attending a government or non-government specialist school or Department-recognised special setting must:

- reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
- reside within the Designated Transport Area (DTA) for the government specialist school attended
- be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

**If you are applying for the conveyance allowance in 2015 the close of application date is Friday 27th February. Please get applications to the East Office ASAP.**

HAMILTON SCHOOL BUS NETWORK

BAIMBRIDGE COLLEGE: 85 STEPHEN ST HAMILTON

Ph: 55722788, Fax: 55725811, Email: gilchrist.david.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

CODE RED WEATHER DECLARED DAYS

DATE 17/2/2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development policy requires that the following school buses will not operate on a Code Red day as declared by the Bureau of Meteorology:

- Dunkeld No 10
- Glenthompson No 9
- Victoria Valley No 8
- Cavendish No 5
- Mooralla No 6
- Macarthur No 15
- Macarthur No 16
- Macarthur No 17
- Merino No 21

All other services will operate as usual.

Yours sincerely

David Gilchrist
Co-ordinator
G'day USA January 2016

It is not too late to join this 20 day Cultural Exchange tour to the USA. Travel with your school friends and live with an American family for 10 days. Visit Disneyland, Universal Studios, San Francisco, San Diego and an American School. There is even a possibility that we might be at Disneyland to bring in the new year!

Please see this newsletter or Mrs Ward for further information. A representative from G'Day USA will speak at the next school assembly and a meeting will be arranged shortly after for interested students and their parents.

The crane came in and loaded the Junior School Toilet block onto the truck and drove it away yesterday. The toilets were removed due to poor condition.
We thank you most sincerely for your help in the Canteen, the school could not provide such a great service for the students without the valuable donation of your time.

The canteen is always in need of volunteers as you can clearly see by the gaps in the above roster we are in need of more assistance. We are very grateful for all that we receive - if you can help out at any time please call Adie on 55 722 788