Laver Captains Rhys Wheeler and Taylor Ramsey-Grady proudly accept the cup from Mr Vecchiet

Principal’s Notes

Laver’s Swimming Success:
The swimming sports at Hughan Park on Tuesday proved a very successful day for Laver House. On a mild day the swimming was keenly contested and we were all delighted at the number of parents and guardians who came along to lend their support. I would like to thank our referee Mr Bob Maroney and Mr David Fisher who helped us run the day. I would also like to congratulate all of our House Captains for the enthusiasm and energy they generated in their house groups. Laver has now won the swimming for the second year in a row and will be eyeing off another success in the upcoming athletics sports in a couple of weeks time.

Minister’s Visit:
We were very pleased to host a visit from the Minister for Training and Skills, Minister Steven Herbert on Wednesday this week. He was on a trip to see for himself the changed circumstances at the RMIT site on Ballarat Road and took the opportunity to look in on the Hamilton District Skills Centre and its operation. We greeted him with a real show of unity on the importance of the centre to Hamilton by having Mayor of Southern Grampians Shire Cr Peter Dark, Centre Manager Tony MacGillivray, Head of TAFE Mark Fidge, Principal of Good Shepherd College Mr Shane Jurecky and me representing Baimbridge College all there to welcome him.

Mobile Phone survey:
I would like to thank all those parents who have taken the time to respond to the mobile phone survey on Compass that has had a couple of false starts since last year. I will take the results to School Council for consideration.

Transition Day:
We held a very successful transition day yesterday. Year 6 students from district primary schools spent the day at school and then parents had the opportunity to hear about how we run our school at the information evening held in the evening. Anyone who missed this chance to find out about Baimbridge College can contact us to make another time that suits them better.

School Council:
The first meeting of School Council takes place on Monday night the 22nd February. High on the agenda will be the School Review and continuing to collect feedback so that we can set goals for the next four years. I will soon be calling for interested parents to nominate for any vacated positions so that we have a viable membership for the next twelve months.
School Review:
The major undertaking for us early this term is our School Review that comes around every four years. We really want input from parents about various aspects of school operations (student achievement, wellbeing and engagement) and we have already sent a survey out via Compass. Your opinions are important to us so please take the time to have your say. In addition to parents we are looking for students and staff opinions that we will organise at school. You may even get a phone call one day soon from Miss Morgan, Mr Hill or me asking you for your opinion.

New Parent Lunch:
I would like to invite any parents or guardians that are new to Baimbridge College to have lunch with us and meet some of their child’s teachers. The lunch takes place on Wednesday 24th February in the VCE Centre on the east campus at 1.00pm. This is an excellent opportunity to see the school functioning and meet teachers that will be working with your children. We look forward to meeting parents and guardians on this day and opening the school up for your visit.

Uniform Guidelines:
Two issues have arisen this year that I will address here to ensure everyone is clear about our policies. The first is hair colour, it seems that this fashion has re-emerged after a number of years of hibernation. Some students have come to school with bright hair colours such as blue and pink – they have been told that while they will not be stopped from attending classes they will not be allowed to represent the school at any official occasions. The school has always, and continues to, reserve the right to determine who represents it at public events.

The second issue is visible piercings - our uniform guidelines specify that students can only have a total of two studs or sleepers in their ears. That means one in each ear or two in one ear, NOT two in each ear. The other guidelines about visible piercings do not seem to have caused the same amount of discussion. I hope this clears up any confusion.

School Jumpers:
I have been led to believe that Accurate Clothing has run out of Baimbridge College jumpers and is waiting on a delivery. Those families affected by this can send their son or daughters to school in a different top for warmth, navy would be preferred if possible. If it is necessary for a student to be out of uniform, parents are asked to send a note of explanation so that an ‘out of uniform’ pass can be issued. Thank you for your cooperation.

Reporting Process:
After much discussion at school Baimbridge College has chosen to increase the level of feedback about student achievement to parents as the term progresses. Instead of providing only a tick the box interim report and then a final semester report, faculties are working on publishing ‘Learning Tasks’ on Compass so that parents can see the work students are being asked to do and also their assessments on those tasks as they progress during term. For example in the Science faculty meeting I attended recently it was agreed that there would be at least 3 separate Learning Tasks per semester, each providing assessment and feedback to parents and students as the term progresses and work is completed. Different faculties will have different numbers of Learning Tasks.

In the case of Science this means that by the time reports are due at the end of semester I, parents will have already seen three lots of work and the assessments achieved along the way. This of course means that we need to think about what we actually put in the end of semester report so that we are not duplicating information. We will be looking for parent opinion about this as part of the review I mentioned above during term I. I look forward to hearing what parents have to say.
Compass:
Our online student management system, Compass, will be enhanced this year. Parents should have their own personal log on which is different to their son or daughter’s. The system is accessible anywhere the internet is available on computer, smart phone, tablet or other mobile device. The website is https://baimbridge-co.vic.jdlf.com.au/login.aspx If you require more information accessing the system please contact the school. There is a link on our website to help you should you forget the address.

If there are any questions or concerns I urge parents and guardians to contact myself, our Assistant Principals Mr John Hill and Miss Rosemary Morgan or the relevant Co-ordinators listed on the previous page.

Principal’s Notes Continued

Year 9 English

Year 9s are studying a novel in English this semester by Philip Gwynne called Swerve. The young protagonist, Hugh Twycross is an exceptional cello player. The dedication taken to master the instrument figures significantly in Hugh’s life and also creates the main plot conflict. Consequently we were thrilled this week, when in year 9 form assembly, we had the privilege of listening to Patrick Nankerville of year 11 playing his cello for us. For the majority of students hearing and seeing a cello played was a new experience. We are very grateful to Patrick for sharing his time with us and introducing our students to the deep melodic tones of the instrument and setting the scene for the novels introduction next week.

Mrs Vincent

NEW PRIMARY LEADERS

Congratulations to (L-R) Toby Saunders (SRC), Darcy Titcombe (FORM CAPTAIN), Georgina Hunter (FORM CAPTAIN) and Ethan Farlech (SRC) for undertaking the responsibilities of leadership positions in the Junior School this year.

Can you help?

The Presentation Ball Committee are chasing any Silver Christmas tree beads to use in this years presentation ball. A picture of what they are looking for is to the right. If you are able to help please drop your contribution in to the East General Office.

DO YOU TAKE THE BUS TO OR FROM SCHOOL?

PLEASE READ THE DOCUMENTATION AT THE BACK OF THIS NEWSLETTER, ESPECIALLY THE THREE CRITERIA POINTS ON THE TOP OF THE APPLICATION FORM PRIOR TO SUBMITTING AS YOU MUST MEET ALL THREE.
Swimming Sports

FINAL SCORES:  
1st LAVER 609 points  
2nd FRASER 598.5 points  
3rd BRADMAN 496 points  
4th CUTHBERT 466.5 points

Age Group Champions:

U12 Boys  Zac Hunter  U12 Girls  Latisha Gay  
13 Boys  Rhylee Porter-Seamons  13 Girls  Olivia Taylor  
14 Boys  Travis Scott  14 Girls  Lily Kyle  
15 Boys  Daniel Battista  15 Girls  Sinead Lambert  
16 Boys  Jack Knight  16 Girls  Temika Gay  
17 Boys  Tom Scott  17 Girls  Danielle Vankalken  
Open Boys  Tom Hiscock  Open Girls  Alice Keatley

Girls Aggregate:  
1st Fraser  427  
2nd Bradman  333  
3rd Laver  203  
4th Cuthbert  156

Boys Aggregate:  
1st Laver  406  
2nd Cuthbert  310.5  
3rd Fraser  171.5  
4th Cuthbert  163
Anyone wanting to know more about the exchange process may wish to catch up with our school leader Anna Mitchell who spent a year in Denmark in Year 10.
JOIN A COMMUNITY OF GLOBAL FRIENDSHIP AND LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

As Abraham Lincoln once wrote: “the best way to predict the future is to create it.” Volunteer to host an international high school student from France arriving into Australia in May 2016 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and see the world in a new light. You’ll have fun learning about cultural differences and language.

Carefully selected students from France will arrive in mid May for one term. With excellent English language skills, they will attend a local Secondary High School, arrive, with their own spending money and comprehensive health insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. To enquire about becoming a volunteer host family visit us at www.scce.com.au email scceausta@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 1800 500 501 FREE for more information.
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.
Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA)

Tuesday, 23rd February 2016

At the Hamilton District Skills Centre
85 Mt Baimbridge Rd, Hamilton

RESPONSIBLE SERVICE OF ALCOHOL

Time: 6.00pm – 10.00pm

Cost: $80.00 (cash only—no eftpos facilities available)

Bookings essential, please call 5571 1708