



BAIMBRIDGE COLLEGE

“Baimbridge College is a child safe school”

Issue 21

Thursday September 1, 2016

85 Stephen Street, Hamilton 3300

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www.baimbridge-co.vic.edu.au

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Oliver! Was a hit at the PAC this year—more photos inside.

Upcoming Events

Thur / Fri Sept 1 & 2

Legacy Badge Selling

Wed Sept 7

Weekly Breakfast @ HDSC

Thur Sept 8

General Assembly

Sept 6, 7 & 9

Current Yr 10 & 11 Course Counselling

Mon Sept 12

GD Golf Heywood

Thur Sept 15

Free Brekky HDSC
VCAL Burrito Day
Footy Colours Day
Music Night

Fri Sept 16

Term 3 Ends 2.30pm

Mon Oct 3

Term 4 Commences

Fri Oct 7

GWR Athletics
Ballarat

Thur Sept 13

Super 8 Cricket

Wed Oct 19

Last Day Classes for Year 12

Thur Oct 20

Year 12 Breakfast
General Assembly
(Year 12 Final)

Principal's Notes

School Priority Review

A Design Team led by the Senior Education Improvement Leader (SEIL), Lindy Sharp will begin the development of a new Strategic Plan informed by the findings of the Priority Review held in Term 2. The Strategic Plan will provide a clear plan of the outcomes Baimbridge College aims to achieve over the next four years and how we intend to achieve them.

Once the Strategic Plan is finalised and approved by the Secretary, our Senior Education Improvement Leader (Lindy) will give approval for its publication on our school's website, along with the Executive Summary of the Review report.

Future Directions

As you are aware the College is undergoing a period of consultation regarding future directions.

A letter from council president Sarah Franks and I, has been placed on Compass and posted to all families; along with the timeline for this period.

It is important that as many people as possible have input into the decision and I therefore urge you to find the time to tell us your views.

Comment drop boxes are available on both the East and West campuses and you can find the contact details for Sarah Franks (Council President), Howard Kelly (independent consultant), Lindy Sharp (Senior Education Improvement Leader) and me on the consultation timeline.

2016/17 Capital Works Program

As mentioned in the last newsletter, a tender process was undertaken to appoint an architect to develop an appropriate plan. A “preferred architect” has been identified and the engagement process is now underway.

Attitude to Schools Student Survey

The data shows us that Baimbridge College students feel safe, connected to their peers and school, are confident and motivated.

All factors relating to Student Relationships, Wellbeing and Teaching and Learning are above both Region and State mean.

Data sets such as these affirm what a great job our teachers do to ensure students are motivated to learn, in a safe environment.

The data also demonstrates the level of responsibility our students take for their learning and developing positive relationships with their peers and teachers.

Continued next page



BAIMBRIDGE COLLEGE

Principal's Notes continued

If you have any concerns please contact:

PRINCIPAL:

Mrs Meridith Walker

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

EAST CAMPUS:

Miss Rosemary Morgan

WEST CAMPUS:

Mr John Hill

P—6 CO-ORDINATOR:

Mr John Hill

YRS 7 - 8 CO-ORDINATOR:

MR EWAN MACDONALD

Assist Co-ordinator:

Mr Alan Thomas

YEAR 9 & 10

CO-ORDINATOR:

Mrs Rachel Rose

Assist Co-ordinators:

Mr John Sly &

Mrs Lorraine Liston

Yr 11 & 12

CO-ORDINATOR:

Ms Sharon Herreen

Assistant Co-ordinator:

Ms Peta Taylor

VET / VCAL

CO-ORDINATOR:

Mr Steven de Man

DEVICE CO-ORDINATOR:

Mr Dean Banfield

STUDENT WELLBEING:

Ms Kelly Taylor

Mrs Bernie Cook

INTEGRATION

COORDINATOR:

Mr Roger Lewis

VRQA - Child Safe Standards.

On August 1, the new Child Safe Standards came into effect.

Progress is being made across all seven standards. Current & new policies will be scrutinised through the lens of the Standards. While we do not have to be compliant at this stage, all schools from 2017 will have to be so. I would like to ask the Baimbridge College School Council to pass a motion, stating our commitment to making our school a "Child Safe School" and further stating that we have a "zero tolerance for child abuse". A statement to this effect will be placed around the school. Our website also displays the statement that "Baimbridge College is a Child Safe school" and has a link to the document sent home on the newsletter.

Attendance

During a reading of the Education and Training Reform Amendment (School Attendance) Bill 2013 a Research Brief provided the following information:

The 2004 Victorian Auditor-General report into managing school absenteeism emphasised the long-term effects of educational disadvantage on young people's lives. It stated that: 'Students who regularly miss school are at greatest risk of dropping-out of school early, becoming long-term unemployed, being homeless, being caught in the poverty trap, depending on welfare and being involved in the justice system'.

The 2012 Victorian Auditor-General report into school completion rates cited research that similarly identified that 'young people who disengage from education early are almost four times more likely to report poor health, have mortality rates up to nine times higher than the general population and are more likely to require welfare support and government subsidised services'.

The importance of attendance at school cannot be overstated. Make attendance at school a priority. We have attached some information regarding the importance of attending school and I urge parents/ carers to work with the school to ensure their children regularly attend. Please contact the relevant Year Level Manager if you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance.

Meridith Walker

WOOLLY WEST FEST WINNERS!

Baimbridge College primary students would like to thank organisers of the Woolly West Fest activities and competitions for Hamilton district primary schools.

Students particularly enjoyed the 'Story Peddlers' performances and literacy related projects. They entered the 'Extra Yarn' themed story/art competition. Their time and effort put into this task was rewarded with prizes in the Grade 1 section, (Baelan Phillips) and the Grade 6 section, (Lilly Stewart.)



Thanks and baaas for another year! Miss D



Out and About in the Covered Way

Mr Hill Has been busy snapping the goings on in the West Covered way of late, capturing some lunch time working from the Year 8 girls to the VCAL students selling their wares as part of the program. Those cupcakes were tasty!!



2017 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship Now Open

The 2017 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship opens on **Monday 5 December 2016** and will close on **Friday 6 January 2017**.

The C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship is one of the most generous privately funded scholarships available to undergraduate and post-graduate students in Australia. Each residential scholarship is valued at up to \$50,000 over 3 years.

Information about the C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship and an application form are available at www.hawkersscholarship.org or by contacting the secretary to the Trustees in Adelaide on 08 8127 1654.

The Charles Hawker Scholarship perpetuates the memory of scholar, soldier, politician and pastoralist **Charles Allan Seymour Hawker**. The Scholarship commemorates the achievements of one of Australia's most respected statesmen.

"C.A.S. Hawker was a truly remarkable man and a great Australian. Our challenge as Trustees is to encourage young Australians to apply. We are always interested to hear from students in regional Australia. Many are reluctant to participate in what is a simple process," Mr Andrew Hawker, Scholarship Trustee and Hawker family member said.

C.A.S. Scholarships are available to all Australian students. The majority have been awarded to students entering their first year of university study. Since 1990, the Trustees have awarded 114 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarships.

Selection is largely based on personal qualities and demonstrated leadership as well as academic ability. Undergraduate and post-graduate Hawker Scholars are able to attend a range of Australian educational institutions. Post-graduate Charles Hawker Scholars are also able to follow in Charles Hawker's footsteps by enrolling at Trinity College and studying at Cambridge UK.

Links to the website and Application Forms are on your Compass Newsfeed if you are in Year 12. You never know if you don't have a go.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS



A Victorian Government initiative in partnership with Foodbank

BREAKFAST CLUB

Baimbridge College has been lucky enough to secure funding for the next four years to run a weekly breakfast club. The HDSC has kindly agreed to offer its dining room as a venue for this and it will run EVERY WEDNESDAY for the rest of this year until the end of November.

A staff member will be on duty for each session. Food is the cereal and fruit type. It is a set menu. It is also FREE. Students will be expected to clean up after themselves and also serve themselves.

We look forward to your support with this program., so far it has been very successful.

Any questions about it can be forwarded to Mr John Hill (West Campus)

Youth Allowance and University

Do you have a child undertaking studies at Year 11 or Year 12 who is intending to go on to Tertiary studies? With the taper mechanisms of our Tax and Centrelink systems, families can be losing as much as 84.5% of their income.

As parents, you may be depriving your child of some financial independence by failing to properly plan for their tertiary education years.

At Advance Accounting Services (AAS) we step you through the Youth Allowance process so that as a family you are maximising your income potential through these very important years.

Centrelink Scholarships alone can be worth over \$14k over a 3 year tertiary course.

If you fail to adequately plan, guess who is paying your child's way through tertiary education?

Advance Accounting are holding several "Understanding Youth Allowance" Seminars

1. At Harrow Tuesday Sept 6th at 7pm phone 5588 2000 to register
2. At Horsham Tuesday Sept 13th 7pm phone 5381 1911 to register

Admittance is FREE

Information Delivery

With the newsletter moving to monthly editions, changes will occur. The roster for the Canteen will appear on Compass news feeds and will be updated in real time, as will events that will impact on our students, such as career event information. We welcome advertising that is relevant to our students and parents. If you have any queries regarding logging in to Compass please call the office on 55 722 788 or watch the instructional video on the website. We understand that some families have limited access to the internet and we are happy to print any information required at school to be collected by you children.

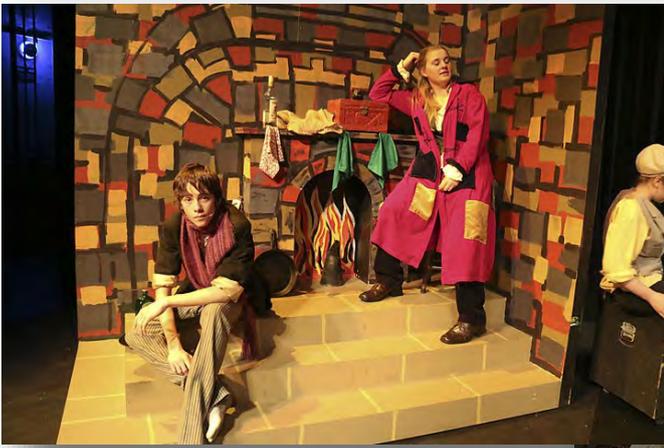
Oliver!

The 2016 production of Oliver! was a great success. The talents of our students were well and truly on show for all to see. This was such a team effort and it was wonderful to see students of this school organising the music, microphones, lights, and backstage, you enabled those on stage to perform to the best of their abilities. The show could not have been the success it was without the wonderful sets built by Roger Kennett, the painting by Stephen Constantine, Keryn Wilson for her photography, and the many other staff members who helped in many ways large and small.

It has been a lot of work by everyone involved but the end result is something to be proud of Well done!

Heather Ward







Year 11 Biology and Psychology trip

By Siobhan Alley Year 11

The 2016 Biology and Psychology camp was loads of fun even though we got rained whilst walking to the museum on the first day! We were so saturated that Mrs McMullen had to take some of our jumpers to the dry cleaners.

The museum was very interesting and I was so amazed by the illusion of the 'ames room', it was funny to look back at the video of Ellie, Gus and I walking through it.

Most of the girls spent the night in my room playing card games after enjoying some yummy pizza down Lygon Street. Lauren was the champion of the cards but Mrs McMullen gave her a good challenge.

On the last day we were late arriving at the zoo due to the trams not running on sufficiently, Miss O'Brien was not happy! Once we got to the zoo we completed our tasks and then got to look around at the animals. We all had a ball at the zoo, a highlight for me would definitely be seeing the Otters and the Butterflies.



National Science Week Report

Our students have enjoyed being involved in the daily quizzes and also the many entries into the 'robot design' competition. The theme 'Drones, Droids and Robots' proved to be very interesting and students particularly enjoyed the two drone demonstrations we had. Thanks to Mr Franks and a local engineer Mr De Chalard for bringing in their drones and speaking to the students.



DEAKIN ACCELERATE

Higher education studies for VCE students

Are you a high achieving Year 11 student interested in completing two first year university subjects during Year 12?

If so, Deakin Accelerate could boost your ATAR, and give you a head start at university. You can complete your subjects on one of our campuses or online.

TO FIND OUT MORE ATTEND ONE OF OUR INFORMATION NIGHTS:

- **Warrnambool Campus**
Tuesday 6 September, 6.00pm
Deakin University, Warrnambool campus
Lecture Theatre J2.01 (Alfred Deakin Lecture Theatre)
- **Melbourne Burwood Campus**
Tuesday 13 September, 6.00pm
Deakin University, Melbourne Burwood Campus
Level 2 Building BC, 221 Burwood Hwy, Burwood
- **Geelong Waurm Ponds Campus**
Wednesday 14 September, 6.00pm
Deakin University, Geelong Waurm Ponds Campus
Lecture Theatre DD2.101, 75 Pigdons Rd, Waurm Ponds.

For more details register at deakin.edu.au/accelerate

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B 1663.04



Friends of the Community Market!
Sunday 11th September 2016
9am - 1pm

Sandford Footbag Reserve, Sandford Reserve Rd, Sandford Victoria 3312 Ph: (03) 5582 0191



Ultimate Monster Action presents a massive family entertainment spectacular featuring monster trucks, FMX, jet car, fireworks and lots of other crazy high octane stunts.

Gates will open and action commences at 3pm with an action packed event for all ages with feature acts including monster trucks performing from 6.00pm concluding with a massive fireworks finale.

FMX Motocross high flying stunts, wheel standing Jeep, Syco Sam roll over truck, bizarre car stunts, crazy clowns and much more.

Why not go for an experience of a lifetime and have a ride in the Monster Rides Truck. This will be the most amazing family entertainment event to hit the Hamilton Showgrounds with a massive fireworks finale at the end that will light up Hamilton Showgrounds like never before.

Join us, sweeties, for a night of fun & frivolity at the Macarthur Primary School Fundraiser

Absolutely Fabulous

THE MOVIE

FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER @ THE HAMILTON CINEMA
 7PM FOR PRE-MOVIE CHAMPAGNE, CIDER & NIBBLES, DARLINGS!
 \$25/TICKET - PHONE 0459 149 280 TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT
 A BUS WILL LEAVE THE MACARTHUR PUB @6.30PM SHARP
 \$10/SEAT - PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE

ALL WELCOME!



IMPORTANT:
Swim and Survive dates.



TERM 4 2016 ENROLMENTS
OPEN TO NEW STUDENTS
18th September 2016 from 9am

TERM DATES: 3 October - 10 December 2016

SWIM ASSESSMENT FOR TERM 4, 2016

New enrolments (over 3 years old) are required to have an assessment

- Saturday 10 September 10.30 am-12noon
- Monday 12 September 4.30pm— 6pm

Cost: Pool Entry

CURRENT ENROLLED STUDENTS

Students enrolled in Term 3 need to enrol in Term 4 by making payment or change of preference by 11th September. Enrolment forms available from swim teachers on night of lesson.



AUSTRALIAN PEDAL CAR GRAND PRIX

OCTOBER 8 2016 2pm to 4pm Whyte Street Coleraine

2 HOUR ENDURANCE PEDAL CAR RACE- **HUGE PRIZES**

All Day: Kids Entertainment, Vintage Cars, Lions BBQ, Wood Raffle

Kids Entertainment: \$10 Wristband for Sale (or \$3 per ride) - This includes: Jumping Castle, Rocket Merry-Go Round, Bungee Run (8+ Years Only).

Face Painting Also Available

Details: www.pedalcargp.com.au — (ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE)

Facebook - The Australian Pedal Car Grand Prix



Canteen Roster

Term 3 & 4, 2016

September 2016

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
5 Phyllis Speirs	6 Lisa McIntyre	7	8	9
12 Tracey Sartain	13 Kim Hunter	14	15	16

October 2016 Term 4

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 Jody Golding	4 Kerry Goodman	5 Leanne Warburton	6 Lyn Duncan	7 Sally Wheeler
10 Kate Mibus	11 Gill Hiscock	12 Melanie Rhook	13 Lyn Battista	14 Kerry Price
17 Tracey Sartain	18 Genevieve Lambert	19 Kim Sparrow	20	21 Aileen Broadbent
24 Nicole Smyth	25 Val Peters	26 Anna Topia	27	28 Dianne Evans
31 Phyllis Speirs				



Due to the Newsletter going monthly we have placed the canteen roster on Compass. When changes are made they will be done in here, go to your people icon, School Documentation, Parent Information, Canteen Roster.

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

Starting Time 9:00 am. If unable to do duty as rostered please ring 5572 2788

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary School Attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

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.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years 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.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

Day off – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts. "

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school 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 as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice. 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.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Secondary School Attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

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.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

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

Each missed day is associated with falling behind in subject topics and assessment tasks, and lead to fewer subject choices and may impact on achievement in years 11 and 12.

Getting in early

It's never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates for all students are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts.

Schools are there to help – if you're having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away

on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy; the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your home room teacher or year level coordinator 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 home room teacher or year level coordinator as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

25/08/2016

Dear parents and friends,

We are writing to update you about consultations which are underway regarding the future direction of Baimbridge College. There are important issues currently being discussed which centre on the key question of whether it is best for the future for the College to remain a P-12 school or whether it is better to make the transition to being a Secondary 7-12 school.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) conducted a priority review of Baimbridge College earlier in 2016, during the second term. This was a whole of school review which considered teaching effectiveness at all year levels, student learning outcomes across all year levels, the delivery of curriculum across the whole school, and how engaged students were in learning. This review looked at school level data which is reported to the Department and included consultation with staff, students and School Council. The current Council has noted that enrolments in the Primary years in particular have continued to decline and the priority review drew attention to this, with Department data predicting continued small numbers of expected enrolments. The findings of the review will inform the development of the Baimbridge College four-year Strategic Plan and the subsequent Annual Implementation Plans.

There has been some confusion over time around earlier decisions at School Council to move from the P-12 to another configuration. A careful look at the history of this matter indicated the following:

- In 2009 the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) now the DET held regional discussions with School Councils about possible models for provision of Government education in the future. These ideas included ideas that moved away from the traditional P-6 and 7-12 model common in the state. Council was to be kept informed of the developments. In 2010 there were further discussions but no real action.
- In 2012 there was a motion carried at Council proposing that over time P-4 classes would progressively cease until the College became a 5-12 College.
- In November 2012 the Council was informed by the Department that it could not endorse that decision as there needed to be consultation with local primary Schools.
- In March 2013 the Council received feedback from the Hamilton primary schools that indicated “in each case the School Councils had concerns about the proposed model creating competition for their year 5 & 6 students in a shrinking student population”. The matter rested there. However the numbers in our Baimbridge primary section have continued to decline. There is debate over the causes of this.

In the past month we have undertaken consultation with our school community about the provision of primary years education at Baimbridge; and at the open meeting on Monday 22 August agreed to develop an Options paper for discussion and further consultation. This Options paper will be developed by our Independent Consultant Howard Kelly and finalised with Council as part of business at the ordinary meeting on Monday September 5.

The School Council is conscious of the importance of making decisions in a measured, open way that can make sense to the community and also of the need to make steady progress toward developing the future direction for the College. Council needs to be mindful of the fact that any

decisions made impact on our use of resources and what programs and subjects we can offer to students in both primary and secondary sections of the school.

The Options paper being developed centres on the key questions below:

1. Do we work towards creating a sustainable P-12 school and use our resources to deliver a strong whole of school curriculum?

Or

2. Do we work towards creating a sustainable 7-12 school and use our resources to deliver a strong secondary school curriculum?

There are pros and cons held in good faith on these options by many people. The Options paper will put the two cases with some of the consequences that will emanate from the adoption of one or the other.

This paper will then be open to responses from the whole of Baimbridge College and broader Hamilton community until Thursday 6 October. The school will distribute this paper via mail to each family using details currently on record as correct contact information, and will also make it available via Compass. The feedback from this consultation phase will inform Council's decision at the scheduled meeting on Monday 24 October.

This decision has an impact on all of us in the community. Council wants to make our decision knowing we have done all we can to be open and listen to what our school community thinks.

Council is responsible for helping set the future direction of Baimbridge College and needs to consider a wide range of factors that influence the shape of our school. The decision we make will have implications for our current students, families and staff and will help shape the education offered to future students.

We realise that families are busy but we urge you to keep your eye out for this paper and ensure that you have a say. In the meantime if you have questions feel free to contact Howard Kelly: hrkelly2@bigpond.com

Sarah Franks (Council President)

Meredith Walker (Acting Principal)

Baimbridge College Hamilton

85 Stephen Street, HAMILTON VIC 3300
Ph: (03) 5572 2788 Fax: (03) 5572 5811
email: baimbridge.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

Baimbridge College Community Consultation Process: Future Directions

PHASE 1	WHAT?	WHO?	TIMELINE
1.	Consultation with parents/carers of P-6 students. Conversations with individual parents/carers. - Whatever is said is in confidence – will be synthesised (to go to Council); names will not be used.	Lindy Sharp (SEIL) Meridith Walker (Principal) Sarah Franks (Council President) Howard Kelly (Consultant)	27 July to 22 August
2.	Consultation with college community: students, parents, staff. Region and school representatives available for personal conversations. Locked drop boxes for comments Information sheet provided via: Compass, newsletter and posted around the school	Lindy Sharp (SEIL) Meridith Walker (Principal) Sarah Franks (Council President) Howard Kelly (Consultant) John Hill (AP)	27 July to 22 August
3.	Consultation with feeder Primary School Principals and Council Presidents; and Kindergartens. Consultation with Shire Council	Lindy Sharp (SEIL) Meridith Walker (Principal)	8 August to 18 August
4.	Collation of college community responses	ESS – Baimbridge College	19 August
5.	School Council briefing –community Consultation: Phase 1 School Council meeting – open to community Presentation of Community Consultation reports: Phase 1	Council members Lindy Sharp (SEIL) Howard Kelly	22 August
PHASE 2	WHAT?	WHO?	TIMELINE
1(a)	Development of draft options for community consultation: Phase 2	Council members Community members	22 August
1(b)	Draft options emailed to council members for consideration and responses sent to Howard Kelly	Meridith Walker	27 - 29 August
1(c)	Howard Kelly emails synthesised responses to council members for consideration	Howard Kelly	1 September
1(d)	Ordinary school council meeting (Options will be ratified as part of general business)	Council members	5 September
2.	Consultation with college community, kindergartens, primary schools, Shire, post-compulsory providers. Region, school and independent representatives available via phone and/or email	Lindy Sharp Meridith Walker Sarah Franks Howard Kelly	6 September to 6 October
3.	Ordinary school council meeting (community feedback will be presented as part of general business)	Council members	10 October
4.	Ordinary school council meeting (a decision on the direction of the college will be made as part of general business)	Council members	24 October



SAFETY AT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL



www.vrqa.vic.gov.au

Children have the right to be safe and protected, including at school. It is important that you feel confident that your child is safe and well in the care of their school.

Schools are responsible for keeping children safe. Schools have to meet legal requirements for the care, safety and welfare of students. From 1 August 2016, they also need to meet child safe standards to achieve a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse.

This information sheet provides information for parents about the child safe standards and how your school must protect children from child abuse.

What information should your school provide to you?

From 1 August 2016, schools must inform the school community about the following:

- strategies to embed a culture of child safety at the school, and roles and responsibilities within the school for achieving these strategies
- the school's child safety policy or statement of commitment to child safety.

You can ask to see these things. You could also ask to see the school's:

- code of conduct outlining clear expectations for appropriate behaviour by school staff with children (this must be publicly available)
- strategies to promote child empowerment and participation, e.g. delivering appropriate education about standards of behaviour for students attending the school, healthy and respectful relationships (including sexuality), resilience and child abuse awareness and prevention
- procedures for reporting suspected child abuse (this must be publicly available).

If you believe the school could take a stronger approach to child safety, whether for all children or to meet your child's specific needs, speak to the principal or someone in a leadership role at the school.

If you wish to make a formal complaint that the school is not meeting the child safe standards, you will first need to make a complaint directly to the school. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint to the school, you can make a formal complaint. More information about making a complaint is available at www.vrqa.vic.gov.au.

Victoria's child safe standards

In 2013, the Victorian Parliament held an Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Non-Government Organisations, resulting in the Betrayal of Trust Report.

The report found that more could be done to strengthen existing approaches to child safety. In response, the Victorian Government is phasing in child safe standards for organisations that work with children, including schools.