Welcome:

I am delighted to welcome all of our new students to Baimbridge College. From our new prep students and our large group of Year 7s right through to the many students who have joined us in Year 11 and 12. I would like to welcome the families of these students to our community and trust that being part of Baimbridge College provides a fulfilling educational experience.

I would also like to welcome back all of our 2012 students from their summer vacation and wish them a successful 2013.

New Staff:

At the end of 2012 a number of long serving Baimbridge College staff took leave from teaching for 2013. They were Mrs Val McDowell, Mrs Jenny Edwards, Mr Richard Neaves, Mr Jeff Donovan, Mrs Kerren Collins, Mrs Chelsea Carter, Miss Rhiannon Smith, Mr Tony Speed, Mr Robert Rizzo and Miss Christina Davis.

As a consequence we are pleased to introduce a number of new staff to our college to fill the roles that have been vacated. They are Ms Lyn Collins (Assistant Principal), Mrs Narelle Kelly (Year 9 Co-ordinator), Ms Catherine McGowan (Student Wellbeing Co-ordinator), Mr Gerard Sheehan (Careers), Miss Ilaria Daneluz (Italian teacher) and Mr Darren McGarigle (Technology teacher).

Smooth Start:

After two days of preparation and professional development for staff we had a very smooth start to the school year for all of our students last Thursday 31st January. We began by bringing the whole school together for a general assembly where parents and new students were welcomed and new staff were introduced to the student body.

After breaking the whole school down to form groups and covering some basic organisational tasks with their form teachers students had their normal recess and went straight into classes period 3.

Year 7 Camp:

As I prepare this newsletter all of our Year 7 students are settling into their orientation camp at Norval in Halls Gap. They were accompanied by their form teachers and year level co-ordinator as well as other staff who guided them through three days of introductory and team building activities in preparation for their membership in Year 7 this year. There is a brief page on the camp this edition with more news to come next week.
Italian Trip:
Our Italian trip students arrived back in Australia, after a month of school in Italy, last Wednesday 29th January. They landed at Melbourne Airport at about 9.00pm after 24 hours of flight.

Anyone who would like to see photographs and stories of the trip can log onto the Baimbridge College website to find out what our students were involved in. I would like to thank Mrs Jill Robinson for keeping the blog on the website up to date during the holidays so that friends and family could see what was happening on the other side of the world.

We are hoping that as a result of our visits to schools in Italy that students from the Milan area may come and spend their summer (June, July, August) holidays with us here in Hamilton. Should this happen we will be looking for families to host our visitors so please consider this possibility in advance should we be looking for a home stay at short notice.

Student Computer Information:
The introduction of individual computers to Year 7 and Year 9 students as well as any new Year 10 students requires attendance at an information evening for parents and students.

Any student from Year 9 in 2012 (Year 10 this year) has already been given their computer for 2013. An information evening for new Year 10 students in 2013 and all Year 9 students in 2013 is being held on Tuesday 12th February at 6.00pm in the VCE Centre on the east campus. Computers will not be distributed to these students until they have attended the information evening with at least one parent.

The second information night for Year 7 students in the MYDevice program will be held on Monday night 11th February at 6.00pm in the VCE Centre. It is only necessary that parents and students who missed last year’s meeting attend on Monday.

Any questions regarding the meetings or the programs can be directed to Mrs Kym Dempsey.

Swimming Sports:
The Baimbridge College House Swimming Sports will be held on Friday 15th February at Hughan Park. This is an exciting whole school activity and I encourage all students to attend. No classes will run on that day at school. No pass outs will be provided for students to leave the pool during the day unless they are with a parent. All students should come to school in the morning as usual and we will move to the pool as a group. Students should bring their lunch, sunscreen, a hat, a drink and should be in uniform unless they are competing in an event. I would welcome parents to attend to support students who are participating and if you can help with the organisation please contact Miss Cogger or Mrs McArthur.

Transition Information:
In keeping with the trend set by other schools in the area, Baimbridge College will hold its Year 6 to Year 7 transition day earlier this year, on Tuesday 19th February. State Primary Schools in the area are aware of this change and we are inviting all Year 6 students to attend a day of schooling at Baimbridge College to discover what we have to offer. This will be followed by an Open Night on the west campus on Wednesday 20th February and then tours of the school during the day on Thursday 21st February.

We trust that aligning our transition information with other schools will enable parents to make a realistic comparison of educational settings for their children.

We look forward to welcoming Year 6 students and their parents to our school and showing them the wonderful opportunities that Baimbridge College has to offer.
Hamilton RSL:
I am pleased that our relationship with the RSL continues to be strong. In the most recent RSL President’s Report, Mr John Lowcock has made reference to our Year 6 students helping in the garden area at the RSL and supporting the RSL with the purchase of a BBQ and coffee making machine from the Victorian Government Advance Community Support funding. I look forward to continuing to embed this relationship in the culture of Baimbridge College and its students.

Baimbridge College Website (www.baimbridge-co.vic.edu.au):
I would like to remind parents that Baimbridge College has a new website thanks to the work of Mrs Jill Robinson. I encourage parents to familiarise themselves with the website as it contains a more comprehensive list of school information than it has in the past. I would like to thank Mrs Robinson for the excellent job she has done constructing and maintaining the new site.

Access to Newsletters:
Baimbridge College produces a newsletter each week that will be distributed to parents by email or via the Baimbridge College website. To ensure you receive your newsletter please contact our front office on 55722788, so that you can be placed on our email distribution list.

Student Lockers and Combination Locks
During 2012 a significant number of Baimbridge College students required their personal locks to be cut to gain access to their locker for books and equipment.

In 2013 combination locks have been introduced and issued to all students to address this so that access is constant.

The cost for locker hire and combination is $60 which many families have paid. If you have not paid for your child $60 is required to be paid by Friday 22 February. If you have any issues with this please contact Ms. C. Mc Gowan. Non-payment indicates your wish for your child not to have a locker or combination lock. Staff have master copies of the combination codes to assist when students have forgotten their code. This ensures their learning is not interrupted and families do not incur ongoing costs.

It will take some time for students to become familiar with their combinations and this process.
All Year 7, Year 9 Boys and all Year 10 Immunisation

You will be receiving immunisation consent cards and letter from your children this week.

The letter explains the reasons immunisation is occurring, and why Year 9 boys are being offered the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine for the first time.

All forms MUST be completed with consent granted OR consent denied and returned to Baimbridge College Offices – either East or West by Friday 14 February.

Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Immunisation Day is March 15th. Any queries please direct to Ms. Lyn Collins on 55722 788 Baimbridge College, West Campus.

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Hamilton Relay For Life is on Fri 22nd & Sat 23rd March this year.
You are not too late to enter a team.
Please call Sharon Donehue for more information on 0407 724 613.

There are conditions on kids and supervision.

**Devon Park Woolshed Dance**
featuring the Cruisers.

Sat March 2nd, Devon Park, Woodhouse
8pm—12.30am—Country Theme. $20 ticket BYO Drinks, Nibbles & Glasses
ALL PROCEEDS TO RELAY FOR LIFE

Tickets from Glenda Hawker 0355 724496 / 0413 192 831
New Faces on Staff in 2013

Baimbridge College welcomes four new staff members in 2013.

L-R
Ms Lyn Collins is both the West Campus Assistant Principal and the P-4 Co-ordinator.

Ms Cath McGowan is the new Wellbeing Co-ordinator and also teaches English and SOSE.

Mrs Narelle Kelly is our new Year 9 Co-ordinator as well as teaching SOSE, English & Maths.

Mr Darren McGarigle returns in 2013 on a permanent basis and will be teaching Design Tech, Woodwork & Auto.

Miss Ilaria Daneluz returns on a full time basis to teach Italian in 2013.

Welcome

A farewell message from Speedo

To the Baimbridge community,

Just a short note to say goodbye and thank you for the wonderful support and kindness shown to me (and indeed my family) over the past 30 years.

A very late appointment to Lorne P-12 school meant there was no real opportunity to say farewell to the many students I worked with over the years, or their families.

Baimbridge College is a great school with a talented and welcoming staff and a student cohort that we can all be truly proud of. I have loved my time on staff and the fabulous friendships that I have enjoyed as a result but the time had come for a change. I will and do miss you all but life goes on and Ms Lyn Collins will be your new Assistant Principal on the West Campus now.

Thanks heaps,

Speedo
Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of $250.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State's most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

MORE INFORMATION AND THE APPLICATION FORM: www.baimbridge-co.vic.edu.au

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen;
- and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.
* i.e. the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).
The Conveyance Allowance - Do you qualify?

What is a conveyance allowance?

The transport of students to school is primarily the responsibility of student’s families. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) provides financial support to some families to assist with the cost of transport to school.

Assistance in the form of a conveyance allowance is available to students that are in rural and remote areas and do not have access to a free school bus. If you live more than 4.8km from school you may be eligible.

Where can I get an application form?

From the East General Office or off the website under Forms or Enrolment.

How do I calculate the distance?

The distance calculated should be based on the shortest practical route from the front gate of the student’s address to the front gate of the school campus. Bing Maps is the DEECD’s choice of online applications to calculate the distance.

Can we use Google and Whereis to calculate the distance?

DEECD’s policy is that the distance should be calculated by using Bing Maps based on the student’s address provided by the school they are attending by the shortest practical route http://www.bing.com/maps/

Occasionally parents or schools may wish to dispute a measurement provided by Bing Maps. DEECD acknowledges that this technology cannot take into account all possible changes and events (i.e. floods, road closures, new developments, etc). Therefore any applications with such disputes can be lodged by the school to the Student Transport Unit (STU) student.transport@edumail.vic.gov.au. It is important that supporting documentation is provided for prompt consideration.
The Year 7 cohort travelled to Halls Gap this week for a three day camp at Norval to help build friendships and create a sense of unity within the group through team exercises and activities.

Students abseiled, hiked and partook in team activities - pictured below is our Year 7 co-ordinator Mr Scott McFadden, on the top of a mountain with a group of Year 7's in the left image.

The right hand image is Mr Mac again - this time showing the students how it’s done on the personal challenge trust team building exercise where he was blindfolded and climbed eight metres up a post, stood on top of it and leapt out to the swing. To quote the man himself “it was a major adrenaline hit” and showed the students that anyone can do anything when they put their minds to it.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YEAR 7 STUDENTS IN 2014

**Tuesday 19th February:** Grade 6 Transition Day

**Wednesday 20th February:** Open Night for Yr 7 2014 Students

**Thursday 21st February:** Principal’s Tour

Year 7 Camp 2013

The Year 7 cohort travelled to Halls Gap this week for a three day camp at Norval to help build friendships and create a sense of unity within the group through team exercises and activities.

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Netbooks rolled out to Year 10 students

Baimbridge College

Netbook 1:1 Information Session

Tuesday 12th February 2013

6.00 – 6.50 pm

Venue: Baimbridge College VCE Centre

For students in years 9 and new students in year 10 to be issued a netbook in 2013, parental / carers and student attendance at an information session is compulsory.

MYDevice

Compulsory Information Session for students in Year 7 in 2013

Monday 11th February 2013

6.00 – 7.00 pm

Venue: Baimbridge College VCE Centre

For students in years 7 to be issued an ultrabook in 2013, student and parental / carers attendance at an information session is compulsory.
# Canteen 2013

## East Campus—Start time AM Shift 10am, PM Shift 12.50

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If unable to do duty as rostered please ring 0355 722 788.
Youth Ambassador Competition

Do you have children between the ages of 10 – 18 years and believe they could do more for other young people with asthma? Would they be interested in making a video and win some awesome prizes?

Then don’t let asthma hold them back! Your child could be The 2013 Youth Ambassador for The Asthma Foundation of Victoria. The competition is now open and closes 29th February 2013.

For more information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462 or email sflanagan@asthma.org.au

HDSA TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thursday 21st February 2013

Hamilton Lawn Tennis Club

1pm Start

Round Robin Tournament for students in Grade 4, 5 and 6.

To be eligible participants must be playing regularly in an organised tennis competition. They will need to be familiar with the rules of tennis and be able to score a set.

There will be a separate event for both boys and girls, the children coming first and second will be selected to represent Hamilton district in the Division Tennis Championships in Warrnambool on Friday 8th March.

To enter please speak to Mrs Priscilla Jury

All Catholic children, their families and teachers are invited to attend a Blessing for the 2013 School Year on Sunday 10th February at 10.30am Mass in St Mary’s Catholic Church, Bishop Paul Bird, Catholic Bishop of our Ballarat Diocese will be the main celebrant.

Enrolment for the Sacrament Program 2013 (including 1st Holy Communion) will take place at this Mass.

If you have any queries please contact the Parish Office on 55 711 161.
## Canteen 2013

### HOT FOOD
- **Pie** $3.20
- **Flavoured Pie** $3.40
- **Pastie** $3.40
- **Nachos** $4.00
- **Party Pie** $1.10
- **Long Sausage Roll** $2.80
- **Half Sausage Roll** $1.50
- **Chiko Roll** $2.20

### ROLLS WRAPS SANDBICHES
- **Assorted Rolls** $4.50
- **Assorted Wraps** $4.50
- **Assorted Sandwiches** $3.50
- **Pie Flavoured** $3.40
- **Salad Pack** $4.50
- **Salad Pack (with meat)** $5.50

### DRINKS
- **Chicken Nuggets 5 for** $2.00
- **OAK Milk 600ml** $2.60
- **Dim Sim (Tern 2 & 3)** $.80
- **OAK Milk 300ml** $1.40
- **Soup (Term 2 & 3)** $3.00
- **Ice Break Milk** $2.70
- **Up & Go** $1.70
- **Ice Tea** $2.70

### CAKES & SLICES
- **Apple Scrolls** $1.60
- **Hedgehog** $2.50
- **Apple Slice** $2.50
- **Vanilla Slice** $2.50
- **Caramel Slice** $2.50
- **Peppermint Slice** $2.50
- **Jelly Slice** $2.50
- **Mint Slice** $2.50
- **Cherry Slice** $2.50
- **Fresha Juice Small** $1.40
- **Fresha Juice Large** $2.20
- **Glo Drink** $1.00
- **Focus Water** $1.50
- **Mt Franklin Water** $2.00
- **Pump Water** $2.50
- **Coke, Diet varieties** $2.80
- **Deep Spring Varieties** $2.80

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**Welcome to the new school year from the Careers Department.**

The Careers Office is always available to students who are in need of vocational assistance and I would welcome their approach.

Mrs Hogan and Mr Sheehan are currently organising the Managed Individual Pathways program for the year along with an excursion to the Melbourne International Air Show to look at Careers in the Aeronautical Industry.

If students wish to apply for a tax file number or to have their names included on the electoral roll, the necessary forms are available at the Careers Office.

Gerard Sheehan
Careers Teacher