**Affirmation**

‘Feel yourself being quietly drawn by the deeper pull of what you truly love.’
RUMI

Welcome back, I trust that everyone had a restful holiday over the term break. First term laid the ground work for a very successful 2014 for students and the College as a whole. I was particularly pleased with the high standards the students displayed throughout the term. This was evident in their presentation, commitment to their studies and their quality of work.

This term is an exciting one. Students need to be focused and ensure that they do not get behind in their study. With all the other interesting things happening in their lives it is easy for students to get distracted and not be diligent in studying and getting homework/assignments completed by the due dates.

As teachers and parents/guardians we need to continue to work together to support the children. Some of the things that parents/guardians can do are:

- Regularly check Compass for homework/assignments;
- Regularly check student planners;
- Help your child to have a study/homework timetable for the week;
- Help your child to have a consistent approach to the completion of homework;

Talking to your child every day as you know, is essential. Positive messages of support and encouragement go a long way to helping develop your child’s confidence.

**CHINA STUDY TOUR**

Assistant Principal, Rachael Williams and I completed a Study Tour of China and also visited our Sister School Wujiang Senior Middle School during the term break. The experience was a good opportunity to deepen our understanding of the Chinese education system and to increase our knowledge of contemporary Chinese culture in a variety of contexts. The Chinese are the number one ranked nation as measured by PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment). I was able to have very fruitful conversation with Principal Li Xuelin. We developed positive outcomes for both schools. He went to great lengths to say that there was a great deal they could learn from us in developing creative and problem solving thinking in their studies. I believe we can also learn from our Sister School Wujiang Senior Middle School to prepare students for high performance in academic achievement.

The relationship we are building is very positive and will mean greater opportunities for Mooroolbark College students and teachers to be able to visit China and also students from Wujiang to experience Australian culture. This I believe will support our goal of maximising our student achievement.
College Uniform Policy

Tattoos cannot be visible and must be covered at all times. In Victoria the legal age for a Tattoo is 18. (Department of Health; Regulations of tattooing and body piercing: Legal restrictions on tattooing in Australia).

Simon Reid
Principal

PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

YEAR 9 TASMANIA TOUR & YEAR 10 CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

The Year 9 and 10 students have returned from their Tasmania Tour and Central Australia Camps. I am very grateful to the teachers who committed themselves to ensuring the camps ran smoothly and that the students had an outstanding learning experience. It was clear that from the reports I received that the students certainly had an exciting adventure. Thank you to our camp leaders Mr. Andy U’ren and his team and Mrs. Jodie Tilley, Mrs. Janet Whitby and Mrs. Elisabeth Nickel and their team for their organisation. The following staff supervised and assisted on the camps:

Graham Small, Jenny Roache, Andrew Dingey, Chris Hanneberry and Jan Willingham on the Tassie Tour.

John Nichol, Dannielle Clarke, Dane Keogh, Chris Seabrook, Grigor Cummings and past students Amber Nelson, and Rachael Evans and to our nurse Rosie for Central Australia.

NEWSLETTERS

Please make note that Newsletters will be available fortnightly and the Bugle will be available in the last week of this term. Newsletters can be accessed on the College Website www.mooroolbarkcollege.vic.edu.au and via Compass. If you would like a hard copy please contact the College and let us know and one will be posted home to you.

EXPLORATION NIGHT

A reminder that our ‘Explore Mooroolbark College’ Night will be held on Thursday 8th May at 7pm. We invite current and new parents/guardians to come and find out about the fabulous opportunities that are available to the students who attend our College.

Rachael Williams
Assistant Principal

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM-LITERACY AND NUMERACY NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program-Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) test for Years 7 and 9 students will be held on Monday May 13, 2014 (Language and Writing), Wednesday May 14, 2014 (Reading) and Thursday May 15, 2014 (Numeracy).

It is essential that your child brings a calculator for the numeracy tests on Thursday May 15.

The NAPLAN tests are conducted by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) on behalf of the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA).

The results of the tests provide diagnostic information for parents/guardians and teachers about your child’s performance in Literacy and Numeracy. It is imperative that your child is at school for all testing sessions. This information can be used to support teaching and learning programs and improve students’ achievement.

Later in the year, you will receive your child’s personal report. The report will give a snapshot of your child’s particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCCA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAPLAN website at www.naplan.edu.au.

Rachael Williams
Assistant Principal

PTCA FUNDRAISING BBQ

WHEN: SATURDAY 10TH MAY, 2014

WHERE: BUNNINGS
268 – 288 Maroondah Highway
CHIRNSIDE PARK

TIME: 8.00AM – 5.30PM

House points will be given to students and families/friends who buy food from the stall.

Volunteers are needed to support our PTCA on the day. Please contact Carmel at the College on 9727 8100 if you can volunteer one hour of your time.

Ann Stratford
Assistant Principal
READING CHALLENGE

PREMIERS’ READING CHALLENGE 2014

The Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2014 is now well underway. Already over 450 books have been read this year with 9 students already completing the challenge. All students in Years 7-10 are automatically registered. To complete the challenge students only need to read 15 books before 31st August, 2014. All students that participate in the challenge will receive 2 house points for each book read with a maximum of 30 points being awarded per student. Students that complete the challenge will also receive a certificate and a free pizza lunch. This year we are also running a special Year 7 competition with the form group that completes the most books winning an extra special prize. The current standings are:

- 7C: 96
- 7B: 86
- 7G: 50
- 7E: 56
- 7D: 33
- 7A: 37
- 7F: 14

If you require more information, please contact Mr Neil at the College on 97278100 or your child’s English teacher.

Matthew Neil
Library Coordinator

www.love2read.org.au

SPORTS NEWS

ZONE SWIMMING

On Monday 31st March, five students from Mooroolbark College travelled to MSCA in Albert Park to contest the Eastern Zone Swimming Championships.

Congratulations to the following students, some who achieved their Personal Best times and the experience of participating at the State swimming Centre was reason enough to make the trip.

Our representatives were:

- Kimberley Barkwith Year 7,
- Jorja-Shae Baker Year 8,
- Paige Hiney Year 8,
- Jennifer Ringer Year 11,
- Amy Learmont Year 12.

The older girls combined in a Relay (20 and Under!) and made it a wonderful way to finish the day.

SPORTS NEWS

STATE TEAMS

Students who are keen and display skills and talent are always advised to take the next step and try out for Interstate Sporting Teams. School Sport Victoria fields many teams in different age groups in the following disciplines. Information can be found at the School Sport website:

https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/TeamVic/Pages/default.aspx

- Australian Football
- Cricket
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Diving
- Football (Soccer)
- Golf
- Hockey
- Netball
- Orienteering
- Surfing
- Rugby League
- Softball
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track and Field
- Touch
- Triathlon Volleyball
- Water Polo

Keith Clapp
Sports Coordinator

COMPASS TRAINING

If you are having difficulty using Compass the College is running four additional parent/guardian information sessions in May.

- Monday 19th May: 6.30 pm to 7.15 pm
- Monday 19th May: 7.30 pm to 8.15 pm
- Tuesday 20th May: 6.30 pm to 7.15 pm
- Tuesday 20th May: 7.30 pm to 8.15 pm

Bookings can be made via the College website or go directly to the following web addresses: http://www.trybooking.com/ EURK and http://www.trybooking.com/84276.

Rachael Williams
Assistant Principal
COMMUNITY NEWS

MOOROOLBARK COLLEGE NEWS

EXPLORATION NIGHT

Our Exploration Night will be held on

THURSDAY 8TH MAY 2014,
commencing at 7.00pm in T Block.

Our Exploration Night is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the outstanding work being undertaken by our students. I expect large numbers of prospective students and their parents/guardians to attend the evening. Since it is an evening of celebration I also extend an invitation to all our parents/guardians to come along and see our College on display.

PLEASE NOTE:
Students will be dismissed at 1.00pm
on
Thursday 8th May, 2014.

‘A place to inspire discovery, value and seize opportunity.’

186 Manchester Road, Mooroolbark 3138 Ph: 9727 8100 Fax: 9727 8188

www.mooroolbarkcollege.vic.edu.au