Principal Team Report
2013 – 2014 Victorian State Budget Win - $8 million reason to smile!!

Great news! Another sensational win for our school community; Phoenix P-12 Community College has scored $8 million from the 2013-2014 Victorian State Budget to continue our extensive construction program focused on ‘state of the art’ learning/community spaces. This will constitute two more Learning Villages.

What will this mean for us as a College you may ask? In short, the addition of these new facilities will provide every student by the start of 2015 with access to the latest possible learning environments available.

This will really put us in an incredible place for making sure our kids have the best of the best. These Learning Villages will also double as community spaces, allowing groups and organisations access to the latest amenities throughout the week. For example, Monday night it could be the Rotary space; on Tuesday it’s a Scout Hall and on Wednesday it’s the Ballarat Book Club venue. They’ll be available for people and groups at low cost. It will allow us to operate a 24/7 community space.

College Building Program – Update

The stage 1 Phoenix P-12 building program continues to take shape with the concrete slabs of the three ‘state of the art’ learning/community spaces almost complete. At this stage, the construction work is ahead of schedule in relation to the three buildings (two learning flexible classroom villages and one specialist Science centre), with the out-of-character dry weather providing good conditions for this foundation stage. Major underground and trench work will occur for the next six weeks through the centre of the secondary campus to install all the main electricity, gas, sewerage and water connections to the whole site. This substantial upgrade will provide the underground infrastructure for all buildings being constructed and developed over the next decade, and to a large degree future proof us for continued growth. As mentioned previously, apart from this six week period, the building process will create minimal disruption to the learning of students across 2013 – 2014.

ANZAC Day Ceremony

On 25th April, the Ballarat community commemorated the 98th Anniversary of the initial landing of our troops on the shores of ANZAC Cove in 1915 with a series of services. A large number of students from our College
were involved in these ANZAC Day ceremonies across both the Ballarat and Sebastopol areas. Our College Leadership teams performed a number of duties across the day:

**Sebastopol Remembrance Service** – Year 9 College Leaders, Year 10 College Leaders and Year 6 College Leaders.

**Ballarat Remembrance Ceremony** - Year 12 College Leaders, Year 9 College Leaders, Year 6 College Leaders, Primary Campus Junior School Council.

The College Cadet Unit under the command of Capt. (AAC) Margaret Benoit were also prominent parts of each ceremony, performing their roles in an outstanding manner. Feedback from community members and local members of Parliament who were in attendance has been glowing in their praise of our students. Congratulations to all students and staff who willingly accepted this opportunity to assist with this important event. You certainly did the College proud. Well done!

**Senior School Report**

This fortnight saw the Try a Trade Day at the University of Ballarat SMB Campus. Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Bain organised a day for 30 Year 10 students who accessed courses such as Building and Construction, Automotive, Nursing, Butchery and Bakery. The students were given a choice to experience two pathways and had a ball changing tyres, making donuts and tending to patients. This has helped students clarify which pathway they would like to pursue.

Our Year 12 leaders also participated in the Administration Professionals’ Breakfast at the Ballarat Golf Club. The event raised funds for a Literacy Program through United Way and was a great success.

- Students completing a VCE Unit 3/4 will have the GAT to attend on June 12 and we will be conducting normal Year 11 and 12 classes all day.

- VCAL classes have now adopted the Edmodo website as a forum to discuss work, submit assignments and access files from any place that has the internet. Parents can also access the student site to see what they are up to if they ask their child for the group code.

- Students are reminded that in Week 8, Year 10 and 11 exams will be running and we expect that all students attend to meet their attendance requirements.

Finally, all Year 10 students have a Gamblers Help Information Session on Monday, 20th May and have a one hour presentation via the Ballarat City Council.

**Mr Andrew Greed**
Assistant Principal - Senior School

**Middle School Update**

A great deal has happened in the Middle School since the last Newsletter.

The student leaders pitched in and worked as a team on the 23rd April. The working bee focused on some planting work in the garden, restoration work in the Art corridor and also the Canteen and lastly some line marking for Four Square and the staff car park. We extend our thanks to the students for the way they approached the challenge—no job was too big or too small. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Ian and the team from Hammonds Paint for their generous support of this event; they donated the paint and lent us the line marking machine,

A group of 23 Years 9 and 10 students then headed off to Wesburn’s Douglas Donald Recreation Reserve for the Victoria Police High Challenge Camp. This was three days absolutely jam packed with leadership and challenge activities. It was hard to determine which was the highlight; the three and a half hour KAOS activity where students navigated their way around the bush to find markers and worked as a team on puzzles, or the ULTRA terrifying high ropes activity.

A new tradition will begin at Phoenix in 2013. This year every student in Year 7 will be presented with the new College badge. This will take place at a year level assembly once NAPLAN testing is completed.

We would like to commend students for the way that they are embracing our focus of Preparation for Learning this term. Teachers are commenting that students are making the effort to be at class on time. We continue to ask that all students bring a fully equipped pencil case to each and every class.

**Mrs Karen Snibson**
Assistant Principal—Middle School

Principal Team Report
Phoenix P-12 Community College
ANZAC DAY REDAN CAMPUS
On ANZAC Day, our Redan Primary Campus was represented by our Campus Leaders at both the Sebastopol RSL Service and the Ballarat RSL Service. Braving the chilly temperatures early in the morning to attend the Cenotaph on Birdwood Avenue, Trisha-May Frankie, Maddison Darouti, Nathan Foss, William Matthews and Noah Hickin represented the Redan Campus with distinction. Joining some of our Senior Campus students, our representatives laid a wreath to memorialise the men and women who have served our country with distinction.

As the day warmed up our School Captains, Shelby Newman and Lyrick Vecchio, along with Nathan Foss, William Matthews, Lauren Brewer and Hayley-Rose Ruddick represented us at the Sturt Street Cenotaph. Lauren and William joined our two Senior Campus Captains in laying our wreath, then marched along as part of a group of around 20 students from Phoenix P-12 Community College to the cheers of a very large crowd in downtown Ballarat.

Our students represented our College with distinction. They drew many positive comments from people attending both services for their outstanding behaviour during such solemn occasions, as well as their presentation in their new school uniforms.

I’d like to thank those students and their families for their attendance, as well as the teachers who represented us at all ANZAC services throughout the day in and around Ballarat.

LEST WE FORGET
5/6 M
Redan Primary Campus

Food and Culture in our World
In the Food Technology Department we are exploring the many social and cultural influences on food. Early in May we were privileged to have the Senior Rabbi for the Victorian region, Rabbi Fred Morgan, travel from Melbourne to speak with our Year 7 and 8 students about the cultural influences of food.

Rabbi Morgan shared his extensive travels and insights with our students in a way which allowed them to gain a much greater understanding of both religion and culture on the Australian diet. We shared various traditional foods with him and then brought this understanding back into our classroom where we were able to cook other foods related to the festival of Shavuot.

Ms Debbie Chan
Technology

Pictured above: Rabbi Morgan with students Jack Wilson 7S1 and Amber Smith 8M1.

Student Absence
It’s not okay to be away!
Phone
5329 3210
Army Cadets

April is always a busy month for Army Cadets and this year was no exception. Members from Sebastopol Army Cadet Unit participated in a total of three ANZAC services both in Ballarat and Geelong.

On 23rd April, 10 Cadets travelled to Geelong along with Capt (AAC) Benoit and Mr Joosten for the Geelong Schools Commemorative ANZAC Service. All Cadets performed extremely well and received praise from the Mayor of Geelong, Keith Fagg and members of the community. This was a great opportunity for Cadets to participate in an activity with our colleagues from both the Naval and Air Force Cadets, who were also in attendance.

On 25th April, Cadets were up early to attend the Sebastopol ANZAC Day March and Service, along with other members of the school community who attended. This was followed by their participation in the Ballarat ANZAC Day March along Sturt Street and the Ballarat Service, along with 300 Army Cadet Unit Ballarat & 425 Sqn (Air Force Cadets).

I am very proud of the performance of all Cadets who attended all three ANZAC services. They looked good, behaved well and did a professional job. Our Unit received much praise and all Cadets should be very proud of their achievement.

Sebastopol Army Cadet Unit also had the privilege of joining 300 Army Cadet Unit Ballarat and 425 Sqn on 24th April to welcome sailors from HMAS Ballarat who were visiting. They showed our Cadets a video of their adventures on HMAS Ballarat, provided opportunities for the Cadets to ask questions, gave our Cadets some gifts and took them for a PT session which they enjoyed.

We thank HMAS Ballarat for taking the time out of their busy schedule to spend time with our Cadets.

At this point, I would also like to take this opportunity to invite members of the school community to attend our Army Cadet Information Night which is being held on Monday, 20th May at 6pm. Capt (AAC) Margaret Benoit will give a brief presentation and answer any questions you have about Cadets. You are also welcome to ask our Cadets any questions that you may have on the night. Students from Phoenix P-12 Community College are eligible to enrol in our Unit if they are over the age of 12½ years. For more information, email margaret.benoit@cadetnet.gov.au or phone 0417 014 978.

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS NETBALL

In May, nine excited young ladies headed off for a day of Intermediate Netball representing Years 9 and 10 but made up of mostly Year 9's and one Year 8 (thank you Tilly) in their beautiful new College dresses.

The girls put in 110% all day and to use their own words, “We won all the games except four!” This was a great way of looking at their day as they did win all the games by playing to the best of their ability at all times and against Year 10’s most of the time.

They took their losses against other teams very seriously by looking at ways to improve in the next game. When they won their only game for the day they were ecstatic knowing they had worked extremely hard to win one. They were all very tired after their five games but keen to do it all again next year.

Congratulations to all the girls for their outstanding efforts representing the College. The girls voted most valuable players by their team mates were Carly Foley, Sarah Burns and Tameka Clinton. Thank you to all the girls for showing excellent teamwork.

Karen Jolly
Coach
In May a team of 12 students from the Primary Campus went and competed at the District Cross Country. The children had to run either 2km or 3km around Victoria Park. The conditions provided many challenges for our students but they all held their heads high and tried their hardest in finishing their event.

Congratulations to both Madison Barry and John Aziawor who have made it through to Regional level. Madison came in 6th place, while John came 3rd. This was an outstanding effort for them both.

We also have a team of 34 students from Grades 3-6 who will on Monday, 20th May represent our College at the District Athletics Sports. We all wish these students the very best in competing in their selected events.

Belinda Slater
Specialist and Welfare Teacher

Senior Leadership Team volunteer their time!

Early in May the Year 12 Senior Student Leaders volunteered to assist at the 2013 Administrative Professionals’ Breakfast, which was held at the Ballarat Golf Club.

After an early wake up and start at 6.30am, the students assisted by ushering the Administrative Professionals to their seats. This was a wonderful opportunity to show off the new College uniform (for which we received several appreciative compliments) and mingle with central people from around our community - which really fitted in with our new Community College approach.

After ushering, the students were seated and given a hot breakfast. While eating, they were able to listen to some truly inspiring speeches involving first-hand experiences from the King Lake fires. The rest of the morning involved assisting with raffles, prizes and auctions which was great community work experience.

Working in teams and mingling amongst the community was a great experience, and the students all came away having enjoyed themselves, feeling proud of grasping such a great educational experience.

The 2013 Phoenix P-12 Community College Production class are busy rehearsing “Seussical” which will be performed at Her Majesty’s Theatre in a couple of weeks.

**Tickets are now available at Her Majesty’s Theatre**

In Person: from Her Majesty's Theatre Box Office
Phone: 5333 5888

Online: [www.hermaj.com](http://www.hermaj.com) (Find Seussical under What’s on section and follow the prompts)

**COST:** $10 Adults, $5 concession.

**DATES:** Thursday 30th, Friday 31st May, 7.00pm, Her Majesty’s Theatre!
Year 10 Equine Learning Experiences Program

This year twelve Year 10 female students have the opportunity to participate in an Equine Learning Experience Program with Emily McVeigh. Over the semester Shara Polgar, Krystal Watson, Tiarna O’Brien, Teagan Fisher, Natasha Wilson and Shayden (Pippy) Lever have been attending three hour weekly sessions at the Ballarat Equestrian Centre. During the 10 week course the girls have opened themselves up to the experience of learning about themselves and increasing their self-awareness through the wisdom of a horse. The students have so far explored with the ELEA herd awareness around emotions, authenticity, mindfulness, problem solving and healthy boundaries to name a few.

Each student has their own work book and completes activities every week. Krystal has provided a reflection of the program and how it has assisted her in everyday life:

During the ELEA Equine Learning Program I have learnt to control my anger, by not letting my mind take over my emotions. I have also learnt our bodies send out energy or signals and the other person or animal senses your emotions or feelings from your energy. Being close to the horses is like having another friend or family member because you get so attached and loving towards them. I also learnt about authentic and false self-voice. False self, meaning that someone or yourself is believing something that isn’t right or true and authentic self, meaning that you know and believe what is true and how you or your body really is. The program continues in Semester 2 with another six Year 10 female students.

Phoenix P-12 College Intermediate Football Team

The Intermediate Football team showed so much promise during their first game in the Eureka Carnival with a great result against Ballarat Secondary College scoring 10.2.62 to 1 point. It was from there on that the boys struggled against the skills from the other teams. Mt Clear finished the round robin on top of the ladder and Phoenix College came in fourth. The best players on the day were: Daniel Armstrong, Bailey Veale, Jahmond Mullaney and Brodie Magee.

Peter Luke
Sports Coordinator

World No Tobacco Day
May 31st, 2013.

Phoenix P-12 Community College will run a range of activities leading up to World No Tobacco Day on Friday, 31st May. Activities will include, students designing quit smoking campaigns that will support young people in making healthy choices. Student designs will be displayed in the school on May 31st.

Phoenix P-12 Community College will also create an opportunity for students to participate in a Quit smoking program, supported by Ballarat Community Health. Students are welcome to access more information, or refer themselves to the Quit program through Student Wellbeing or the Senior School.

For more information visit the website: www.quit.org.au or the Quitline: 137848. Please contact Lorraine, Bridget or Josh for more information.

Pictured above: Krystal Watson and left Natasha Wilson, Teagan Fisher and Shayden Lever.
A tired but happy group of students have just returned from over four weeks in Germany. The College’s exchange program with three German schools is over for another year. Caitlyn Schaper, Kira Tilley, Justin Smith, Rachael Doherty and Mr Ferguson were in Germany from the middle of March until late April.

They spent time in German classrooms and living with their German host families. They all had a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience German culture first hand and to improve their German speaking skills, together with eating lots of fantastic German cakes! They also spent time in beautiful Marburg central Germany, travelled to Berlin, Kassel and many other beautiful and interesting places. An opportunity to get involved in the next year’s exchange is open to all students studying German.

Mr William Ferguson
LOTE Coordinator
Parents and educators are invited to participate in an important community education forum as part of Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2013.

**Date:** Wednesday 22 May 2013  
**Time:** 5.45pm - 8.00pm  
**Venue:** Ballarat Mechanics Institute  
117 Sturt St, Ballarat

**Light refreshments provided**  
5.45pm—6.15pm.  
**Forum commences at 6.15pm.**

**FREE to attend**, but bookings essential.  
Please register at  

For further information visit  
www.rgaw.com.au or contact  
rgaw2013@responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au

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**CHANGE TO SCHOOL JUMPERS**

Don’t the new uniforms look terrific!!  
We are still refining certain elements of the uniform and policy, with small changes coming about as a result of feedback from students and parents. Thank you to those who are sharing their thoughts. At the last College Council meeting, it was decided that the Phoenix College logo will be included on the College jumpers as part of the official uniform. If you are one of the many families who have already purchased your new College jumper, you can simply take your jumper to Hip Pocket in Howitt Street to have the emblem embroidered on.  
If you have your jumper embroidered before the end of Term 2, there will be no charge. Simply drop your clearly named jumper in at Hip Pocket and they will organise the rest.

**Family Accounts:**  
Thank you again to all the families who have supported the education of children and have either paid their account, or set up periodic payments. Don’t forget setting up a regular BPAY payment/regular deposit at the General Office or Centrepay deposits into your Family Account are all great ways to get on top of your financial commitment to educate your child(ren). If you build a credit in your account the money will remain as a prepaid balance and can be used to pay off any future invoices which may occur, or roll over to the next year.

**ACCESS TO COLLEGE GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS**

You may have noticed the building project is well underway and a part of that is trench digging for supply of utilities across the College grounds. For the next few weeks the main entrance in Hertford Street will be unavailable for entry or exit. If you need to drive into the College grounds you will be able to enter the grounds via the Tuppen Drive gate. Parking will be available near the skip bins on the left hand side, opposite the Tennis Courts.  
As soon as this phase of works is completed, front gate access will be re-established.

General parking is still available on the street and you can walk in through the front gate to access the buildings. Please remember it is College protocol that ALL visitors to the College report to the General Office using the main foyer entrance, where you will be greeted and assisted with your enquiry or appointment. Staff will meet you in the foyer if you have an appointment. Please note that the entrance directly off the main gate walkway is for student or delivery access only. You will still be redirected to the waiting area in the foyer if you access the College through this door. Please remember to make your way around the corner to the foyer entrance.

**Lorraine Hayes**  
**Business Manager**
Cyber-safety Information:
Women's Health Grampians delivered a cyber-safety program in Term 1 for all Year 7 students at Phoenix P-12 Community College.
Students were given useful advice on how to stay safe online.
A number of helpful websites were discussed during the program.
Please visit the following websites for more useful information:
www.cybersmart.gov.au - Information for all ages on using the internet safely
www.staysmartonline.gov.au - Information for all ages on internet security
www.dbcde.gov.au/easyguide - An easy guide to socialising online
www.headspace.org.au - Information and assistance for young people
www.thinkyouknow.org.au - Information for all ages on using the internet safely

City of Ballarat Immunisation Services - Hepatitis B Vaccination (adolescent)
Adolescent Hepatitis B vaccination is available for Year 7 students in 2013, but is no longer part of the School Immunisation Program. Most 12-13 year old children have already received Hepatitis B vaccination as part of the Childhood National Immunisation Program which included Hepatitis B from May 2000.
Children who may have commenced school late, repeated a year level or have been born overseas may have missed this immunisation.
If you would like to obtain Hepatitis B vaccination for your child, this is available as a 2-dose course via your GP or the Council Immunisation Services. No cost applies to this age group.
Enquiries: City of Ballarat Immunisation Services - 5320 5850