From the Principal

College Building program— Stage 1 almost complete; Stage 2 about to begin!!

HERE WE GO .... The Stage 1 Phoenix P-12 building program is almost complete and ready for us to move in from the start of Term 2. This $10 million project has seen the construction of three ‘State of the Art’ learning/community spaces come to fruition; two learning flexible classroom villages and a Specialist Science Centre.

Stage 2 of the College Building Program, a further $8 million of capital works, will begin in May of this year. Another two Learning Villages with a number of external car parks and ground improvements will occur in this phase. We have again scheduled and put processes in place to cause minimal disruption to the learning of students during this building phase; once again using the vast area of the site to our advantage in this development phase.

Some photos below give you an idea of the new facilities coming online. Exciting times!! I will keep you updated in relation to the progress of these facilities as it happens. Our kids are about to get the best facilities available for 21st Century learning. Enjoy!

The first month of Learning in 2014

We have had a fantastic start to the year with classes in full swing and already starting to work towards successful outcomes. We have been walking around visiting quite a few learning areas over the last month and have found students and staff to be very positive in their approach to tasks being tackled. The new Learning Village structure (a highly supportive Pastoral Care system) has been a good example of this constructive shift; this type of approach certainly underpins success. Congratulations to all involved, your efforts and commitment to high achievement is being recognised.

Victorian State Premier / Dr Denis Napthine visits Phoenix P-12 Community College

The Victorian State Premier, Dr Denis Napthine, and the Hon Simon Ramsay MP visited the College on Tuesday, 4th March to look at the way in which the vision that is Phoenix P-12 Community College has evolved as a 21st Century learning/community space.

They spent time interacting with our Student Leadership Teams about our inspirational and aspirational platform of school improvement, and the journey we are on that is underpinned by a high expectation agenda. (eg. Our World Champion F1 in Schools Team - Science/Technology: Engineering and Maths enrichment program). Our visitors then viewed some of the possible pathways and opportunities available across the Ballarat South Community Learning Precinct such as the BA@Phoenix in partnership with Federation University Australia, and the Work Learning Centre targeted at adult training.
The Premier’s visit is great recognition of the College’s success in evolving a 21st Century place of learning that is focused on community partnerships, advancement and leadership development. A proud moment for all involved. Well done!

**Learning Focus - School Leaders for 2014**
Please do not hesitate to contact them if they can assist in the development of learning plans for your children at any stage.

- **Student Learning – Assistant Principal**
  Angela Quinn (Sebastopol Campus)

- **Student Learning – Assistant Principal**
  Michael Benoit (Redan Campus)

- **Special Programs – Assistant Principal**
  Wayne Johnston (Sebastopol Campus)

- **Learning Leader Curriculum - Wayne Johnston**
- **Learning Leader Curriculum - Jill Ebbs**
- **Learning Leader eLearning - Meaghan Beddoe (All Sebastopol Campus)**
- **Learning Leader Curriculum**
  Deb Benoit (Primary Campus)

**2014 Phoenix P-12 Community College Council**
On behalf of the Phoenix P-12 College community, we would like to thank the following people for accepting positions onto School Council for 2014. Your decision to be involved in this important College body is greatly appreciated.

The first meeting of the new College Council will be held at the Annual General Meeting on Monday, 24th March 2014. The College Council is made up of six Parent representatives, five DEECD representatives and four Community members who are co-opted onto the group at the AGM after accepting nominations.

2014 membership is as follows:

**Parent Representatives**
Mrs Rosslyn Lonie, Mr Jarrod Page, Mrs Karen Bartsch, Mrs Georgina Hocking, Mr Brett Page and Mr Chris Ward.

**DEECD Representatives**
Mr Scott Dellar, Mr Josh Ebbels, Mrs Karen Snibson, Mr Mick Benoit and Mrs Annette Bedford.

**Community Representatives**
Four Community members will be nominated onto the Council at the AGM to be held on Monday, 24th March.

At this point, I would like to acknowledge the work and effort of the 2013 School Council members who have decided not to renominate in 2014.

Mr Bill Ferguson as a DEECD representative has been a substantial part of a College Council that has led the successful transition to Phoenix P-12 Community College, while also advancing the vision that is the Ballarat South Community Learning Precinct. His work and commitment over this exciting and busy time has been greatly appreciated by all groups within the College community.

It should be noted that Bill has completed 12 years’ service on College Council while at the school. This accomplishment will be recognised formally later on in the year.

**Victorian Certificate Of Applied Learning / What’s happening in 2014.**
The VCAL Numeracy students have attended excursions to the Lucas Display Village over the past month. They have been researching designs and dimensions of homes for their assessment on measurement and design. The students visited Metricon, Simonds, GJ Gardner and the JG King display homes to broaden their knowledge on layout and design. The students are currently working on their own individual design and have incorporated elements from each display home.

**Mr Scott Dellar**
Executive Principal

**SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATE**
It has been a good start for our Year 12 cohort and they have been working well in all classes and taking opportunities to work after school.

The students completing VET courses need to make sure they are utilising Ms Kennedy to find Industry Placement and are beginning to firm up their pathway options. Each student from Years 10-12 will have official
paperwork to sign for our VASS enrolments so must ensure they attend Pastoral Care Group sessions each week. This program also provides many opportunities for students to access special programs and to find out about work/study opportunities.

The Events Management students have organised the first Senior School Social for the year and pricing will be built around meeting school attendance expectations. It will be on April 29 at the Sebastopol Football Club and tickets will go fast so get in quick. Term 2 is almost here so please ensure that you arrange a time to see teachers at Parent/Student/Teacher interview night to ensure you have an up-to-date and full understanding of where your child is placed in terms of meeting outcomes and competencies.

Mr Andrew Greed
Assistant Principal - Senior School

MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE

It has been a busy start to the term and we are all looking forward to the opening of the new Learning Villages, but we have a few hurdles to cross before we get there.

Staff have been busy completing their Interim Reports. I encourage parents to discuss these reports with their students to identify where improvements can be made. Parent/Student/Teacher interviews are an excellent opportunity for parents to meet their children’s teachers. At this time we are making plans for a number of initiatives affecting students in the Middle School. These include:

- Year 7 Introductory BBQ.
- Cyber safety presentations for students and parents.
- Anzac Day.
- Student Leadership Expo (for Grade 6 Student Leaders across the Ballarat area).
- Our very first student Leadership Big Day Out at Myrniong.

We would also like to acknowledge all of those students and staff who participated in our Information Evening for prospective Year 7 students. This was a real showcase of our College and our students. In particular I would like to offer my thanks to Amber Dennis and Riley Bain – Year 7 students who accepted the challenge of speaking to all of the parents and students. They did a tremendous job.

Finally please ensure that your students are coming to school fully prepared for a day of learning. They should bring with them a water bottle, lunch and a snack, their diary and all of the materials they require for the day ahead. (eg Instrument if they have a Music lesson or PE gear if it is PE day).

Mrs Karen Snibson
Assistant Principal - Middle School

Please note:

All visitors to the College MUST report to the General Office.

Visitors are asked to follow the signs to the General Office, and use the main entrance door into the foyer, and NOT the student access door.

Picking up students:
If you have been contacted to pick up your child, please ask at the General Office and wait in the foyer.

Meeting with staff:
As staff are busy teaching most of the time, appointments are required. If you need to see a particular staff member please telephone the General Office and make an appointment in advance.

The General Office staff will greet you through the window when you arrive and contact the staff member you are meeting with.

All visitors will be asked to wait in the foyer where the staff member will collect you for your meeting or your student arrives.

Thank you for your cooperation.
THE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
Phoenix P-12 Community College is working through the Achievement Program to become a health promoting school with support from Ballarat Community Health. A big congratulations to our Primary Campus – they have now received a certificate and outdoor sign from the Victorian Government acknowledging their work in promoting health and wellbeing. A sun protection sticker has been added to the sign because as a Sun Smart school they have met all of the benchmarks. Our school’s health and wellbeing team are currently focusing on physical activity and will be working hard with students, families and staff to start implementing the Achievement Program in the Secondary Campus.

Belinda Slater and Lyndell Finlayson with Demelza Diacogiorgis, Health Promotion Officer from Ballarat Community Health.

2014 TERM 1 INTERIM REPORTS
PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER PATHWAY INTERVIEWS

- Interim Reports will be mailed out to parents during the week ending March 21st.
- Parent/Student/Teacher Pathway Interviews will be conducted as follows:
  
  **Session 1:** Thursday Afternoon/Evening 3rd April, 4.00 – 7.00pm
  **Session 2:** Friday 4th April, 9.00am – 2.30pm

During March, Teachers will be completing Interim Reports for every student in every subject. Parents can expect to receive Student Interim Reports after **Monday 24th March**.

With the Interim Report you will also find information and interview booking/appointment sheets for the Parent/Student/Teacher interviews. These interview times will run over two sessions as listed above. Please send the booking sheet to school with your child indicating the time you are available to meet so they can book an interview with their teacher in class time.

It is expected that students will accompany their parents to the interviews.

The format of the interviews will be the same as previous years and it will be essential for students to book appointment times that suit both parents and teachers.

These interviews will provide an excellent opportunity for both parents and students to discuss the Interim Report, and the general progress being made.

We look forward to seeing students and parents during these interviews.

WAYNE JOHNSTON
TEACHING & LEARNING MANAGER

MATHLETICS in 2014
Phoenix College offers all students from Prep to Year 12 the opportunity to improve their understanding of numbers and mathematics by access to an award winning software application called Mathletics. Current research advises us that regular revision and practice of skills and techniques improves our level of understanding about anything. Think about using the latest mobile phone or the new generation of wearable technologies being used in our community. Regular use makes us all more proficient at using these gadgets for fun, education or productivity.

Students are enrolled to have access using Mathletics 24/7. If there is an internet connection at home there is the opportunity to develop your knowledge about all things connected with mathematics. The web site is secure so there are no concerns about cyber bullying or trolling. Each student has their own individualised Username and Password. There are competitions against other students from around the world live.

Games are available to play on Mathletics that helps build a solid foundation for understanding mathematics is used in everyday life by all citizens in the 21st Century.

Ask your son or daughter how often they use Mathletics to help them improve their depth of understanding about their mathematics.
NEWTON WINS
HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS!!!

In February, Phoenix P-12 Community College students made their yearly trek to the Eureka pool for the Annual House Swimming Carnival. Students came dressed in their House themes and colours prepared for a day of fun and competition.

Throughout the day we observed good participation from students with Newton House taking an early lead. By lunchtime Newton had created a nice buffer at the top with competitors from the House competing in the majority of events.

At lunch we were treated to a fashion parade by the top three dressed students from each House. There was the Cat in a Hat with Thing 1 and Thing 2, Wonder Woman and many others. This was a fantastic event that was well supported by both staff and students and will hopefully be run on a yearly basis.

After the break Newton continued to dominate in the pool with high participation levels the key to them increasing their lead. Newton sustained this lead throughout the relays and were the eventual winners of the 2014 House Swimming Carnival.

I would like to thank all the staff, student leaders, students and parents for helping create a fantastic atmosphere and well run Carnival. Congratulations to all the individual winners and Newton. Age group champions are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-13yrs</td>
<td>Mitchell Collins</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14yrs</td>
<td>Hudson Sharp</td>
<td>Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15yrs</td>
<td>James Hazendonk</td>
<td>Sturt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>Brodie Kamp</td>
<td>Newton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17yrs</td>
<td>Kyran Greenwood</td>
<td>Sturt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18yrs</td>
<td>Thomas Bassett</td>
<td>Newton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Girls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-13yrs</td>
<td>Macy Templeton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14yrs</td>
<td>Shaqiera Cartledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15yrs</td>
<td>Samantha Harbridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>Sarah Burns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17yrs</td>
<td>Shellby Lonie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18yrs</td>
<td>Maddison Sharp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eureka Swimming Carnival

Early in March 35 students represented Phoenix College at the Eureka Swimming Carnival at Eureka pool. Students were excited and ready for a day full of competing against the region’s best swimmers. With some late changes we were able to compete in the majority of events throughout the day and had some very pleasing results.

The girls 17-20 freestyle relay team won their event in a closely contested race and with all swimmers swimming near their personal best times. There were a number of students competing in higher age divisions to help out with relay teams. These students are to be commended and showed once again that our students are willing to help each other which is a fine example of our school spirit.

Shellby Lonie had an amazing day swimming in every possible race and was rewarded by being the Age Group Champion for Girls U17’s. Congratulations Shellby and well done on your performances.

Thank you to Mr Bastiaan de Bondt, Mr Mitch Jolly and Miss Emily Tattersall for helping on the day and providing students with the opportunity to represent their school. Thanks must also go to the parents who supported our team on the day and were amazing with their encouragement. Finally thank you to the students who represented the College and demonstrated Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Cooperation and Excellence.

Mr Daniel Hay - Sports Coordinator
**COLLEGE TENNIS TEAMS**

Our Senior Boys Tennis Team and Intermediate Girls Tennis Team competed in the Annual Schools Tennis Competition during Term 1.

The Senior boys played three hard-fought matches. They comfortably beat Ballarat Secondary College but went down fighting to Ballarat High School and Mount Clear College.

The Intermediate girls played against Ballarat High School and Wendouree Secondary College. Both matches were very tight, unfortunately going against our girls.

All students should be very proud of their efforts and the way they represented Phoenix College, with both teams displaying excellent enthusiasm and sportsmanship in all matches.

The Intermediate Boys Team was handed a walkover and will compete in the finals in March.

**Intermediate Girls:** Emma Whitcher, Sarah Burns, Clare Shelton, Maddeleine Snibson, Jemma Harris.

**Intermediate Boys:** Brady Grundy, Matthew Boucher, Tanner Norman, Brayden Pfeiffer.

**Senior Boys:** Alexander Ferguson, Riley Anthony, Jai Dawkins, Andrew Waight, Thomas Parkinson.

Miss Samantha Gilbert
Tennis Coach

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**PHOENIX MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA**

On Thursday 27th and Friday 28th February our school hosted the Phoenix Music Extravaganza. This involved students from Phoenix P-12 Community College, Stawell and Nhill Secondary Colleges. The challenge for the students was to perform seven new music charts over the two days. Seven modules to rehearse then perform to all our Primary Campus students. They performed brilliantly!

Music included Aria on a Bach Prelude, Livin’ La Vida Loca, Fever, Pomp and Circumstance, Rum-Bah, Rolling in the Deep and the medley Disco Lives! which included YMCA, Stayin’ Alive and I Will Survive.

Our primary students were enthralled with the talent of the seniors. Their appreciation for the “Big Band” was terrific and they had a wonderful time.

Mr John Netherway
Music Coordinator

**Pictured above:** The talented students of Phoenix College, Stawell and Nhill Secondary Colleges.

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**CALLING THE COLLEGE**

The number to phone is 5329 3293

**Option 1:** Sebastopol Secondary Campus

**Option 2:** Redan Primary Campus
FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Family Email Addresses
The world of technology is moving rapidly and we are trying to keep up. THANK YOU for your help.
We now have most family email addresses, which enables families to receive Newsletters, statements and other correspondence much more efficiently. Please let us know if you are not receiving your emails. If you have a new email address please let the General Office know - email us phoenix.p12.cc@edumail.vic.gov.au or call the General Office on 5329 3293. Copies of Newsletters or your statement are available from the General Office at any time.

Family Finances
Family statements were sent out via email (and some posted where an email address was not available) recently. All elective charges for Semester 1 were included on those statements.
Payment ASAP would be appreciated; regular payments into your Family Account can help avoid having to find a large amount to pay off at once. You are welcome to pay funds into your account at any time by dropping in to the General Office, BPAY or set up Centrepay.

BPAY/Centrepay
Many people have paid their Education Costs already, or set up payment plans using BPAY or Centrepay fortnightly. Your family BPAY code is on your statement. Centrepay forms are available from the General Office. This is a terrific way to get on top of your family commitment to the education of your child(ren). Remember any monies paid in advance will be kept in your Family Account and can be used to pay excursions, camps or other costs which may arise at school any time. If there is a balance remaining at the end of the year, it will be held and receipted against next year’s costs.

EMA and your Education Costs Reminder
We have noticed a number of families are still thinking that EMA funds are available to cover the various costs. Please remember that the EMA funding has changed and the school portion of EMA no longer exists. Your Family Account only reflects the amount you elected to have deposited directly into the College account.

Excursions
Thank you to all those families who are returning excursion payment and permission notes regularly on time to the office. Payments for excursions must be made at the General Office and MUST BE PRIOR to the excursion. Please ensure that all details are correct before you sign the forms and mark clearly any alterations. These forms are used to keep family contact details up to date. Remember the “slot in the wall” near the office door is a quick way to drop forms in if you are in a hurry or the office is busy.

Ms. Lorraine Hayes - Business Manager

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Debutante Ball

2014

Year 11 & 12 Students Only
Information Evening
Wednesday 26th, March
7pm in the LRC
The Debutante Balls will be held on Friday 20th and 27th June at
Bray Raceway Ballarat.
For more information email
BJ Overstead or Cheryl Kennedy
overstead.bj.k@edumail.vic.gov.au or
kennedy.cheryl.j1@edumail.vic.gov.au
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>J10 – VCE English/ Literature</td>
<td>LRC Homework</td>
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<td>LRC - Homework</td>
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<td>3.30-4.30</td>
<td>VCE English Rob Lewers</td>
<td>LRC – Maths Focus on VCE</td>
<td>LRC – Maths/ English/Literature Focus on VCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>4.00-5.30pm Multicultural Youth Ballarat Library</td>
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**SEBASTOPOL CAMPUS**

**ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

**THIS FRIDAY 21st MARCH**

EVERYONE IS EXPECTED TO BE THERE IF NOT TO COMPETE THEN TO SUPPORT YOUR HOUSE!!!!

There will be buses taking students to Llanberris Reserve and back to the College.

Students will need sunscreen, water bottles, runners and sports attire in House colours.

Come dressed in your House colours!!!!!

No coloured hairspray or crepe paper!!!!

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Do you need extra help???

Homework/Support for Learning is available

Please contact your teacher or House Manager for any extra information or assistance.
It's NOT OK To Be Away

Every day counts - school attendance!

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.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future - a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they'll have missed more than a year 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.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with their classroom teachers and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with their teachers and ensure your child completes the plan.
- Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with their classroom teachers as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let their House Manager know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Any absences must be reported to our Attendance Officer on 5329 3210.

Child Dental Benefits Schedule

Financial support for basic dental services for children aged 2-17.

Eligibility basics

- Children aged between 2-17 years on any day of the calendar year.
- Receive, or their family, guardian or carer receives, certain government benefits such as Family Tax Benefit Part A for at least part of the calendar year.
- Are eligible for Medicare.

Benefits available under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

In 2014, benefits for basic dental services are capped at $1,000 per child over two consecutive calendar years.

If you do not use all of your $1,000 benefit in the first year of eligibility, you can use it in the second year if you are still eligible. Any remaining balance will not be carried forward at the end of the second year.

Benefits will cover a range of services including examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions.

Benefits are not available for orthodontic or cosmetic dental work and cannot be paid for any services provided in a hospital.

Child Dental Benefits Schedule services will not count towards the Medicare Safety Net or the Extended Medicare Safety Net thresholds.

Process for using the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

You can confirm your child’s eligibility and balance amount by accessing your Medicare online account at my.gov.au or calling the Medicare General Enquiries line on 132 011.

LEGO - ANY UNWANTED LEGO?

These great design tools can provide hours of fun and problem solving opportunities for students. Clean out the back room and send unwanted Lego to the Learning Resource Centre via the General Office.
2014 CALENDAR
Secondary Campus

March
18th Redan Campus Athletics Day
21st Sebastopol Campus Athletics Day
   ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO
   PARTICIPATE AND/OR SUPPORT THEIR
   HOUSE. Llanberris Reserve.
24th AGM Council Meeting 6pm
   Students to book Parent/Student/
   Teacher Interviews with staff

April
2nd Interschool Athletics Sports
3rd Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
   4.00pm - 7.00pm.
4th Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews
   9.00am - 2.30pm.
   No formal classes.
   Students to attend interviews with their
   parents.
4th END OF TERM 1

Phoenix P-12
Community College
wish you all a safe
holiday and happy
Easter!!!

Can Saver Plus assist you
with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500
for educational costs including:
- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card,
are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your
partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Sue Ogilvie, your local Saver Plus Worker:
(03) 5333 1707/ 0401 144 089
or sue@bgt.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered
in Ballarat and surrounding districts by the Ballarat Training Group.
The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.

City of Ballarat Learning & Diversity in partnership with the Centre for
Multicultural Youth & the Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council
present:

HOMEWORK CLUB

What: A homework club where students can
be assisted with their school/course work by
a trained tutor in an inclusive & comfortable
environment

When: Beginning the 5th of March
2014 Homework Club will run
every Wednesday 4:00pm –
5:30pm

Where: Ballarat Library meeting
room

To register please contact Tara on 5338 6864

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