May 2014, Issue 5

From the Principal

Term 2 – Welcome back

We would like to welcome all students back to school for Term 2, 2014; and hope that the two week study break was restful. In particular, it is important that time spent with family and friends during Easter were enjoyed by all.

What an exciting start to the new term with the opening of our two new Learning Villages and Science Centre. Feedback has been fantastic from students and staff about the new Learning Areas. We look forward to bringing you some updates about these ‘State-of-the-Art’ facilities as the term unfolds.

Can we especially welcome our new students to the College across all levels of both campuses; we trust the move to our school is a pleasurable and rewarding experience both for yourself and your families. If you have any queries or would like to make an appointment to discuss any points in relation to your child’s chosen pathway or learning, please do not hesitate to contact our General Office on either the Redan (Primary) or Sebastopol (Secondary) campuses.

ANZAC Day Ceremonies / Phoenix P-12 Community College representation

On 25th April this year, the Ballarat community commemorated the 99th 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 Sebastopol Cadet Unit under the command of Capt. (AAC) Margaret Benoit were also prominent parts of

Student Quotes:

“Makes me feel like a million dollar kid!” – Jackson Ford

“I enjoy the vibrant and colorful atmosphere in the new buildings.” – Tempany Dirks

“The new buildings provide an environment that is clean and warm which helps foster a great positive vibe around the place.” – Kristopher Keays

“The landscaping around the buildings make them feel like a castle with a moat!” – Cameron Reid

“A modern look makes it feel more appealing.” – Aimee Stowe

“Inviting and welcoming for new students.” Meg Tilley

New Science and Learning Areas
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!

Stage 7: eLearning upgrade across the College
Another major upgrade of our Laptop/iPad Program has been undertaken across the entire College with a more comprehensive structure being implemented. This has seen the high density and advanced wireless AEROHIVE system extended across most parts of the school, and over 150 laptops and iPads being rolled out to most Learning Areas from P-12.

- Prep. — 1 => will have an additional 10 iPads.
- Years 2 – 6 => an additional 16 laptops.

This means that a further 90 laptops and 75 iPads will be available for student use across the term. For the Primary Campus this will mean 150 ICT devises available for 160 students. A SENSATIONAL resource for our kids!! With the proposed extension to the iPad Program in Term 2; this will provide a 1:1 access program for our students on the Redan Campus. A 21st Century platform at its best!

Across the Secondary Campus, we have enhanced laptop and iPad access from the start of this term:

- Learning Villages => an additional 26 laptops.
- All Secondary learning areas will have laptop and iPad trolleys upgraded => an additional 156 laptops.

This $250,000 initiative will increase our ability to provide high level access to the latest technology for our students. The ICT rich classroom environment, which we have put in place, will inevitably further improve the learning framework throughout the two campuses. Naturally, this will allow students to delve into and participate in increased global learning experiences as they forge their unique pathways of interest and skill development. MAGIC STUFF!

A series of iPad applications are presently being tested by our eLearning Executive Team to allow us to continue to make sure our students have access to the most advanced ICT environment available. I continue to marvel at the changing technology advancements occurring. Aah!... the life of the 21st Century learner!

SENIOR SCHOOL UPDATE
We would like to remind parents of students that as we have now moved to our Villages the Senior School Office does not exist. Each senior student has an Assistant Principal and two House Managers in their Learning Village who are their first contact for all matters. The Learning Village team then may refer you to the VCE Coordinator Jenny Ford; the VET / VCAL Coordinator Maree Hall; the Careers Practitioner Cheryl Kennedy; the VASS operator Sonia Bain or Head of Senior School Andrew Greed. Access to these people may be necessary to discuss SAC/SAT requirements, VET enrolment, exam timetables, pathways and VTAC or other matters relating to VCAA regulations. Please utilise their expertise.

During Term 2 it is common for some students to begin to feel the pressures of Year 12 and to become stressed. All Village teams are able to help in these situations to provide strategies and advice to help students manage workload, emotional and pathway issues. Again, please use their expertise and seek help as this is ALWAYS a better option than becoming more stressed.

Also remember that the GAT is coming up this term for all students completing a Unit 3 study and students will have the opportunity to prepare for this by attending PCG classes.

Mr Andrew Greed.
Assistant Principal - Senior School

MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE
The transition of approximately 850 students to new rooms and lockers is never going to be an easy one, particularly with a three day week after Easter. However all of this occurred with the least amount of disruption to learning as possible and we would like to thank students for their patience during this time.

Fifteen Year 7 students had the opportunity to work as ambassadors at our Leadership Expo. We now have the task of compiling our Year 7 Leadership Team.

We would like to remind parents of students in Years 7 and 8 that Pastoral Care time each week is dedicated to the ‘Drop Everything And Read Program’. Students do have the responsibility of bringing a book to read each week.

Strong organisation is the key to academic success. To assist with this we provide all students with a College diary. Students should be taking their diary to every class so key dates and work deadlines can be recorded. The focus during Term 2 is organisation and parents can assist, particularly Year 7 students, by monitoring the use of the diary.

Mrs Karen Snibson
Assistant Principal - Middle School
STUDENT LEADERSHIP EXPO
In April the College held its second annual Year 6 Leadership Expo. We hosted 100 Year 6 students from 10 different schools across Ballarat. The focus of the day was for students to gain an understanding of how they lead and what they stand for as leaders. Students who attended were identified by their Primary Schools as having the capacity to develop their leadership capabilities.

There was a terrific range of activities on the day, including a newspaper fashion parade, initiative games, ideal island design and a dramatic presentation highlighting strategies to reduce bullying in schools.

We are proud of our own Student Leaders who participated and also of our Senior Leaders who worked as facilitators on the day.

We have received an enormous amount of positive feedback and look forward to an even more exciting Expo in 2015. Thanks to Mr Drew Layton for his preparation and coordination of the day.

Mrs. Karen Snibson
Assistant Principal - Middle School

WINNERS OF THE WRITING COMPETITION
Early this month I received some very exciting news. The following students Harry Lodge, Colin Krause, Lachlan Spittle, Bridget Douhadji, Jordan Filipovski and Chelsea Hazendonk now have the opportunity to have their writing competition entry published in a Nation-Wide collection of student work.

Not all students were given this opportunity so it is fantastic that we have so many entries that have made it in to the final stages. The following students have been given the opportunity to have their work viewed and shared on the Write4Fun website. They are all still in the running for the major prizes which will be drawn mid-May. Please congratulate them and wish them all luck!

Pictured above: Chelsea Hazendonk, Jordan Filipovski, Harry Lodge and Lachlan Spittle, just some of the successful authors.

Mrs Browning
Extension Programs Coordinator - English

UNIFORM POLICY REMINDER
Hoodies and windcheaters are not part of College uniform. The only additional item for winter is the blazer or jacket which can be worn at all times during the day. These can be purchased at Crockers or Lowes.

Hem length – Stipulated hem length is 5cm above the knee; this applies to both the winter skirt and dress. Where students continue to flaunt this policy a letter will be sent home with a stipulated time to have the hem length corrected.

Those who do not comply will be provided with the opportunity to work in time out.

Phoenix P-12
Community College
Redan Campus P-6
‘In Knowledge there is Opportunity’

STILL TAKING 2015 ENROLMENTS


Mr Mick Benoit - Campus Principal
Phone: 5329 3293 (option 2)
REDAN CAMPUS LIBRARY

The Redan Campus Library renovation is now complete. What a wonderful addition it is to the amazing building work going on at the College. Bean bags and a retro story time chair make it a comfortable place for students and teachers to read and learn. The walls are covered with artwork and a scrabble tile whiteboard to fire students’ imagination. A giant black robot bookcase guards the entrance and exit to the Library. The Library collection has been re-catalogued so it now forms part of the wider College Library collection with 700 new picture, fiction and non-fiction books added to the collection in the last six months.

Mr Mark Macnamara - Library Manager

LATITUDE TALK

Deciding what to do after finally finishing Year 12 is daunting! There are so many options; the world literally opens up in front of you! So when I heard that a speaker was coming to talk to us about her decision to take a Gap Year with Latitude Global Volunteering I jumped at the chance.

Cassie Price, a past student from Phoenix P-12 Community College, graciously took time out of her day to talk to us about the Gap Year Program and her experience in Fiji. It was inspiring.

She told us about all the benefits of a Gap Year; the possible locations we could go; the different volunteering jobs we could do; the inevitable cost and about the truly rewarding experience volunteering with Latitude was. She described the process of applying, how to get scholarships and answered many of the questions we threw at her.

Her passion and excitement for the program was contagious. By the end of the session we were all flipping through the brochure provided and imagining ourselves teaching in Fiji, doing community work in Argentina or even running outdoor camps in Canada.

So I’d like to say a big thank you to Ms Kennedy for organising the talk and, of course, a big thank you to Cassie for sharing with us her unique experience.

Kassandra Snibson
Year 12

Pictured above: Cassie Price with Kassandra Snibson.
SENIOR BOYS FOOTY
Come along to support the Phoenix College Senior Boys Football team throughout Term 2. The team plays on Tuesday nights at various schools throughout Ballarat from 4:530pm. Please see the draw.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Match</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round 2</td>
<td>13th May</td>
<td>Phoenix College vs Ballarat Grammar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round 3</td>
<td>20th May</td>
<td>St Patrick’s College (White) vs Phoenix College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round 4</td>
<td>27th May</td>
<td>Phoenix College vs St Patrick’s College (Blue)</td>
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<td>Round 5</td>
<td>3rd June</td>
<td>Ballarat &amp; Clarendon College vs Phoenix College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round 6</td>
<td>10th June</td>
<td>Phoenix College vs Mount Clear College</td>
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The team went through the season undefeated last season before losing in the Grand Final against St Patrick’s College. We are striving to go one better this season!

GRAND FINAL - TUESDAY 17TH JUNE!!!

Mr Matt Sharkey
Mr Drew Layton
Mr Mitch Jolly
Coaches

GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM
Today with the assistance of Sam Gilbert, I coached the first Senior Girls Football team that Phoenix College has fielded in many years due to a variety of reasons. I must say coaching the team, teaching them the basic skills over a number of training sessions; teaching them the rules and seeing the girls achieve some success are some of the highlights of my sports coaching experience. Out of the 22 girls who took the field, only eight of them had actually played football before.

The first game saw us up against Mount Clear College. We were victorious by 28 points with Natasha Wilson starring with three goals and excellent team work and tackling through the midfield led by Lamourette Folly and co-Captains, Savannah Rodgers and Tayla Niblett.

The girls got a bit of a shock in the second game against Ballarat High School, playing against some very experienced footballers, eventually losing by 41 points. Despite the scorecard the girls never gave up, tackling hard and fighting it out until the final siren sounded. Tayla Niblett, Natasha Middlin, Tameka Clinton, Ellen Milera and Lamourette Folly were some of the better performers in this game.

The third game saw our girls proudly rebound to trounce Beaufort Secondary College by 77 points with Natasha Wilson again starring with four goals, Shayden-Amanda Lever two goals and Rachel Kpogo creating many opportunities up forward. Kalsey Loughnan, Lamourette Folly, Savannah Rodgers and Amy Whiting were among the best players in what was a great team effort with all girls contributing well to the win.

Drew Layton
Coach

Pictured below:
Girls Football Team
FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

UNIFORM
Do you have uniform to sell or are you looking to purchase second hand uniform?
Winter is here and perhaps it is time for you to look for College jumpers or jackets?
May I remind you that we do not have a uniform shop anymore, but the Sustainable School Shop web link [www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au](http://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au) is a great place to either sell or purchase uniform and books from other families. (All families have free membership for this year – and are able to buy or sell items online.)
If you require assistance using the website, please contact the Company through the links provided. Mrs Bedford is more than happy to assist you if you are having trouble or do not have access to a computer.

FAMILY ACCOUNTS
My how time is flying – have you paid your Education costs for this year?
Thank you again to all the families who have supported the education of their 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.

EXCURSIONS AND DROP BOX
Please be reminded that excursion permission slips MUST be returned to the General Office and payment made PRIOR to the day of the activity. We do have a drop box beside the General Office door where you are welcome to pop notices and payment in if you are in a hurry and the Office is busy.

MAINTAINING FAMILY DETAILS
With the move to electronic communication, or mobile telephone contact, it is even more important that you keep your family contact details up to date at all times.
Please contact the General Office if you have any changes to your family contacts, emergency contact addresses, employment or family guardianship changes. We need to have current data to make sure we can contact you if required.
If you have a new or recently changed email, please make sure you let us know. The monthly Newsletter and Family Accounts are now emailed out to families, along with other vital information regarding the education of their child(ren).

ACCESS TO COLLEGE GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS - KEEP SAFE
You will have noticed more demolition and building works going on in the College grounds. We continually have workmen, trucks and other vehicles coming and going from the site. Please take care when entering the College grounds and check what activity is going on around you. For the safety of all, it is important that ALL visitors to the College follow the Visitors Protocol - by going directly to the General Office. This helps keep our College a safe learning place and ensures the safety of our students.

All visitors are asked to please go directly to the General Office, where the reception staff will assist you. Please use the main foyer entrance, where you will be greeted and assisted with your enquiry or appointment. If you have an appointment, need to see someone or pick up your child, the reception staff will assist you and you will be asked to wait in the College Foyer where Staff or students will come and meet you.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE: 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.

Ms Lorraine Hayes
Business Manager
2014 CALENDAR
Secondary Campus

MAY
13th  Years 7 & 9 NAPLAN Testing begins
14th  Year 9 Beeripmo Camp
      Deb Training 3.30pm - 5.30pm
15th  AFL Football (Int) Boys Eureka Div.
      Netball Girls (Int) Eureka Div.
      Soccer (Int) Boys and Girls
16th  Get into Gaming Excursion
18th  High Country Experience
19th  EDUCATION WEEK
21st  Deb Training 3.30pm - 5.30pm
      Race Around Melbourne CBD Excursion
22nd  AFL Football (Snr) Boys Eureka Div.
      Lady Gowrie Learning Centre Excursion
      Netball (Snr) Girls Eureka Div.
      Police Academy Tour
      Soccer (Snr) Boys and Girls
      Top Arts Excursion ALL DAY
26th  Lady Northcote High Ropes Excursion
      Work Experience (VICAL students)
      College Council Meeting 6.00pm
28th  Cross Country Eureka Div.
      Deb Training 3.30pm - 5.30pm
29th  Jewish Holocaust Centre Excursion
      Race Around Melbourne CBD Excursion

JUNE
2nd   Years 10 & 11 Exams begin
3rd   Football (Jnr) Boys
      Soccer (Jnr) Boys & Girls
      Netball Year 8 Girls Eureka Div.
      Deb Training 3.30pm - 5.30pm
9th   QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC
      HOLIDAY
11th  GAT Exam
13th  STUDENT FREE DAY
      REPORT WRITING DAY
      P-12 Students

Year 7 Family Maths Night
All Year 7 students and their families are invited to a Family Maths Night on Wednesday 28th May from 7:00 pm until 8:00 pm in the Inquiry Village at the College.

Come along for a fun, informative and low-stress evening to …
… play some games.
… experience a Year 7 Maths class.
… see the new buildings in action.
… find out how to help your child in secondary school Maths.
… learn about Mathletics.
… and did I say … play some games?

For further information please contact
Ms Jill Ebbs.
RSVP to the General Office by Monday 26th May – 5329 3293

After School Program has started. Tuesdays 3.15pm - 4.30pm in H10 for 9 weeks. For more information contact Annette Bedford.

EMA CHEQUES ARE AVAILABLE TO COLLECT FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE.

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