FORTHCOMING EVENTS

MON 25/2  •  INTERMEDIATE CRICKET BOYS – WHITTLESEA ROUND 1
WED 27/2  •  CONNECT EXCURSION
FRI 1/3    •  INTERMEDIATE SUMMER SPORT WHITTLESEA DIVISION
FRI 1/3    •  CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY (SCHOOLS)
MON 4/3    •  YEAR 12 ELEVATE – STUDY SEMINAR
           •  ITALY TRIP – PARENT INFORMATION EVENING – LIBRARY
TUES 5/3   •  SENIOR SUMMER SPORT
WED 6/3    •  YEAR 12 ELEVATE PARENTS SEMINAR
THUR 7/3   •  YEAR 8 CRICKET WHITTLESEA – BOYS AND GIRLS
MON 11/3  •  LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Quote of the Week
The two basic processes of education are knowing and valuing.
Robert J. Havighurst

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

You’ll notice the difference in the branding for our newsletter this week. It is the first stage of our commemoration of the school’s 50th anniversary. We have had quite a number of former students who have contacted the school asking about events that might be occurring this year. At this stage we have planned to have an open weekend as well as a reception in September this year. Once the date has been confirmed, we will let the community of Lalor know.

Early next week you will be receiving information about School Council membership. Each year at this time, the tenure of approximately half of our members comes to an end and elections take place in mid-March to determine the new council. We have four parent member and two DEECD member positions open. You will receive nomination forms in the mail early next week and I ask that you consider nominating to be part of the school’s governing body, where you can contribute your views on the school’s plans for the next few years.

On Wednesday evening, we held an information evening for Year 10 students and their parents providing information about the netbook program the school offers. The turn out was excellent. On Wednesday 27th of February, we will be holding another such evening for those students and parents of Years 11 and 12 who are not currently in the program. Information about this was posted home. Any parent of a Year 10 student who wasn’t able to make it this week is welcome to attend next Wednesday. We are not able to issue any student with a netbook unless a parent has attended the information session and has completed the relevant paperwork. It must be stressed that irrespective of previous information evenings, parents and students must attend the evening on the 27th if they intend to be part of the program.

This will allow parents to speak directly to the staff member who is the most likely to be aware of the circumstances you wish to raise, and therefore assistance is more timely and effective. On calling the school you will always be asked the year level of your child as often the reception staff will be able to gauge who it is that is most likely to assist you.

This is our responsibility to address concerns raised and we attempt to do so where it is within our power and where we have the ability to do so. The policy includes the expectation that the common goal is to achieve an outcome that is fair across the board; that the member of staff and parent act in good faith, and in a calm and courteous manner; and that respect and understanding of each other’s point of view and value differences is shown rather than judge and blame. We need to remember that while we may have differences of views, the common denominator is to achieve the best outcomes for our individual students and for all the students at the school. I ask that when you do need to contact the school that you check the document (also sent early in the year) detailing ‘who to contact if…’. This will allow parents to speak directly to the staff member who is the most likely to be aware of the circumstances you wish to raise, and therefore assistance is more timely and effective. On calling the school you will always be asked the year level of your child as often the reception staff will be able to gauge who it is that is most likely to be able to assist you. Should you not have the documents mentioned above, they are available on our website along with all other relevant policies.

Ms S. Sena
College Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS’ REPORTS

Year 9 & 10
I have been pleased with the approach and focus of the Year 9 and 10 students so far this term. Students have been working hard, wearing their uniform correctly and displaying the college values. Feedback from teachers has also been positive.

Friday 22nd February 2013
Year 9 ABCN Goals Program
Over the past few years the college has been involved in the Goals Program where our students were mentored by people from Melbourne based business, primarily Mallesons. This was a positive experience for the students and their mentors. Unfortunately the company has withdrawn from the program and the Year 9 students will not have the opportunity to be involved this year. Both the ABCN and the school is looking at ways to bring in a similar program for the students. If this occurs parents and students will be informed.

Staff profiles

Nick Milne
Mr Milne is a Health & PE teacher. He has been at the school for two years and teaches VCE Health & Human Development, Health & PE and Year 10 Driver Education. He has a Bachelor of Applied Science from RMIT and plays football for the Hurstbridge Football Club.

Mario Ladnjak
Mr Ladnjak teaches Maths, Health & PE and Sport at the college. He has a Diploma and Certificate in Sport Development and a Bachelor of Applied Science and Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education from Victoria University. He graduated in the top 15% of students at Victoria University and is also a coach and player for the Boroondara Eagles Soccer Club.

Lalor Students Overseas
In the January holidays three Year 12 students; Zoe Konstantinidis, Emily Spicevska and Ashlea Anderson participated in the ‘G’Day USA’ trip with the Koonung Community Group. Below is Zoe’s report;

On the 4th January a group of 20 students, two from Lalor SC, went over to the USA. We visited many famous tourist attractions throughout Los Angeles, Arizona and San Francisco. We went to many places such as Disneyland, Knott’s Berry Farm, multiple shopping malls, the Golden Gate Bridge, Lombard St (the most crocked street in the world), Fisherman’s Wharf, Alcatraz, Hollywood Blvd., the Grand Canyon and my personal favourite Universal Studios.

I stayed with a family in Gilbert Arizona for 11 days and was lucky enough to be taken to Las Vegas which was definitely one of the highlights of the trip! Along the way I formed close friendships with the students on the trip from Koonung SC and Canterbury Girls’ SC and also the girls who I stayed with during hosting.

I am very lucky to have attended the trip because overall it was definitely the most amazing opportunity I have ever had, and it is an experience which I will treasure for the rest of my life.

Lalor students will be offered this opportunity in January 2015, watch the student bulletin and newsletter for more information.

Mrs J. Cain
Assistant Principal, Years 9 & 10

A very important person in the lives of our students is their Home Group Teacher. The Home Group teacher is the first port of call for our students every day and the teacher who best knows the student and acts as a mentor and guide throughout the year. The Home Group teacher is particularly important to the Year 7 students as they get used to life at Secondary school. The Home Group teachers this year are very experienced at working with Year 7 students and this year many have the added advantage of teaching their Home Group. The Home Group teachers are:

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If you have any thing you wish to discuss with the Home Group teachers please don’t hesitate to contact them at the school.

Class and individual portrait photographs were taken this were taken this week. If any student missed having their portrait taken this week, the photographers are returning to the school for a catch up session later in the term. I will advise students of this date when it becomes known.

Finally, a reminder about parking and morning drop-offs in David Street and Dalton Road. Put simply, parking or stopping is prohibited on the school side of Dalton Road and David Street between the school crossing on David Street and around the corner to the crossing on Dalton Road. Parking Officers frequent the area and will issue infringements.

Mr P. James
Assistant Principal, Years 7 & 8

I would like to congratulate Years 11 and 12 students for the extremely impressive start to the year. Each year the school asks a little more from our students and they continue to deliver. The attitude, work ethic and pride in the uniform has been outstanding and we hope to carry this momentum through the entire year. With assessment tasks starting for most Year 7 and 12 students in the coming weeks it is time to translate that good start into good results. To assist this for Year 12 students there will be a study session held by Elevate Education on Monday the 4th of March. All parents of VCE students are invited to a parent seminar that will go through how to assist your child with their studies on Wednesday the 6th of March. We encourage all parents to attend this session for an insight into how to deal with the coming year.

There will also be a parent information evening for all Year 11 and 12 students who did not take up the option of getting a school supplied netbook through the federal government’s NSSCF program. This information evening will be held on Wednesday the 27th of February at 7pm and is compulsory for the parents of any student in Year 11 and 12 who wishes to now take up
this offer. You must attend the session for your child to be eligible for a netbook. Teachers will start completing Interim Reports next week for those students who are on probation. At the end of this process Student Managers will contact the parents of those students on probation and provide feedback on how their son/daughter has started the year. This feedback will guide parents as to what action needs to be taken before the end of the term to see continued improvement, or to intervene and ensure the minimum standard set is being achieved.

I would like to remind visitors to the school that you need to arrange a meeting time prior to coming up to the school. This ensures that the person you wish to see is available and is able to meet you at the general office and sign you in. As a school we are concerned that over the last couple of weeks we have had visitors who have not followed procedures and have wandered into the school grounds. This is an obvious safety concern and we ask that all members of the school community follow these guidelines to ensure that strangers in the school grounds are easily identified and appropriate action taken.

Mr C. Jewell
Assistant Principal, Years 11 & 12

2013 School Council Nominations & Elections
You will receive information about this in the post. We ask parents to consider nominating for School Council and have a part in determining the school’s agenda over the next few years. Nominations must be returned to the front office by 4:00pm on Tuesday 5th March, 2013.

LIBRARY NEWS
The Library Resource Centre has been welcoming all our Year 7 classes over the last two weeks for their Library Orientation Lesson. As part of Year 7 students’ transitional journey from primary to secondary schooling, each class comes in to enable them to become familiar with their school library. Most students commented that our library space is larger and offers more facilities than what they have experienced in their primary school libraries.

The Library Orientation lesson allowed students opportunities to be introduced to the library staff and to be shown and to have explained various sections of the Library Resource Centre. These sections include Fiction collections (reading books, graphic novels, picture books and true stories), the Non-fiction collection, computers area and Magazines and Printing/Photocopying area.

Our Year 7 students are all registered on the Library Management Database, which will allow them to borrow resources from the library. It has been pleasing to see that many students have started borrowing books, particularly to support their recreational reading component for English.

All students at Lalor Secondary College are able to borrow four books from the library collections. The standard borrowing time is two weeks. However, some resources may be restricted to no borrowing or overnight borrowing due to assignment topics being studied. Students are reminded that they must present their Student ID card when they want to borrow books, to photocopy and to book computers at lunchtimes. Our Year 7 students will be issued their cards soon, but they are able to borrow in the meantime by presenting their school diaries.

Years 8 to 12 students: Student ID cards issued last year are still operational until they are issued with their new cards soon.

Ms Susanne Graetsch
Library Resource Centre Manager

Lalor SC 50th Anniversary Organising Committee
To ensure we celebrate this wonderful milestone appropriately, we are asking for interested members of our school community, past and present students, and staff to join the organising committee. The first committee meeting is anticipated to be held in the week beginning the 4th March, 2013. Enquiries can be made directly to the College Principal, Ms Sena.

VCE MATHEMATICS CLUB
The VCE Mathematics Club has been set up to give senior students the opportunity to work in study groups and individually in a supervised environment at L.S.C after school on Thursdays. Having an allocated time for students to interact with their peers and discuss the course work will allow them to further develop their understanding of maths.

This group will be supervised by a Senior Maths Teacher and will take place each Thursday from 3:15pm to 4:30pm in the Senior Study Centre.

Ms M. Brennan
Mathematics Coordinator

EMA
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

Any parents or guardians with a current Health Care Card or Pension Card, who have not yet applied for the 2013 Education Maintenance Allowance, please come to the General Office with your card to complete an application.

Parent applications close 28 February 2013.

Santina Pileio
EMA Administrator

School Captains: Zoe Konstantinidis & Mithun Hunsur; Vice Captains: Peter Stoiccevski & Ashlea Anderson; Sport Captains: Joanne Kontogiorgis & Katerina Kafkakis
Italy Trip 2014 - Parent Information Evening

In the April 2014 school holidays Lalor Secondary College and Epping Secondary have come together with Trekset Tours to organise a trip to Italy!

The Session will be held at Lalor Secondary College, On Monday 4th March, from 6.30pm in the Library Resource Centre. Please fill in the permission/attendance form and return it to the general office by no later than Friday March 1st 2013.

Ms Cain & Ms Sofo
Trip Organisers

Careers and Youth Talk

This year Careers and Pathways would like to welcome Miss Moore to the team as the Transition Broker. We will once again be working closely with students across all year levels to provide information and advice regarding post-secondary and alternative education options; including University, TAFE and employment. The Careers Office is open at recess, lunchtime and after school. Drop by to say hello or ask any questions. We look forward to expanding the Careers Program in 2013, making it bigger and better, whilst getting to know even more students.

Year 10 Students & Work Experience

A reminder to all Year 10 students and families that Work Experience will run from the 24th to the 28th June 2013. It is expected that all students will secure a placement and work for the entire week. Work experience is designed to expand the horizons of young people and give great insight into the employment industry. Students should make the most of this by securing a place early and in a field students may want to work in the future.

Students have received two copies of the work experience arrangement forms, additional forms can be found on the Lalor Secondary School website, under the Careers Tab. On the youth notice board at the front of the Careers Office, students will also find a handy hints sheet for assistance in finding a placement and a list of previous employers who have taken on students.

Special Opportunities

The Careers Team will provide students with information on special opportunities at school and in the community. These opportunities aim to further enhance students’ educational experiences and keep students motivated and focused. These opportunities may be in the form of scholarships, excursions, attending workshops and more. Students will be informed of these opportunities at year level assemblies, in the school newsletter and in the Daily Bulletin. Students are strongly encouraged to get involved in these opportunities as they are excellent activities to put on resumes, university and SEAS applications.

FOLIO PREPARATION AND CAREER DISCOVERY COURSES – RMIT runs short courses which can be useful in improving your skills, helping with career decisions and preparing you for future folio presentations. They cover areas like: architectural drawing, 3D product design, autoCAD, drawing, fashion, studio textiles, design jobs, visual/fine art, desktop publishing, graphic design, advertising, interior decoration, visual merchandising. Contact: 9925 8111 or see www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au. Some courses are run on Saturdays, others in school holidays.

All students and parents are welcome to make an appointment to see Miss Chantry or Miss Moore in the careers office located in the school library.