Friday 6th February 2014

I once again welcome our community to the 2015 school year. Last week you would have received a letter from me highlighting important information you need to be aware of for 2015. If you did not receive this letter which was posted to all parents, please let us know and we will provide you with a copy, or alternatively you will be able to access it via the school website under news and events.

At the end of 2014 we said farewell to Ms Brenan, who took a leading teacher position at a school in the west; Mr O 'Laughlin, who returned to his previous school; Ms Walsh who took a position at a school in the east; Ms Wootton and Ms Trodd, who are both on leave; Ms Giaccotto, who is currently on maternity leave; and Ms Lei who returned to her previous position in IT. As a result we welcome to Lalor Secondary College the following people – Ms Trajkovic, Food Tech teacher; Mr Gulina, Music teacher; and Mr Georgiopoulos, IT Manager. I know they are welcomed by our community and hope that their time at Lalor is a rewarding one. We also had a name change of one of our staff members who married at the end of 2014. Ms S. Sena

And so begins the year. The annual Year 12 Camp occurred earlier in the week, with both students and staff having had a worthwhile time, setting the tone for the final year of study for the Year 12 students. On Wednesday, Motivational Media attended the school for their annual presentation – once again providing a lot of food for thought for our students about adversity and decisions made as a result. If you have a child in Years 7–11, please take the time to ask them what they thought of this year's presentation, ask them about one of the stories they found the most thought provoking.

With the beginning of the year comes the process for School Council Elections for the term of March 2015 – March 2017. Information regarding nominations will appear further into this newsletter. All communications regarding School Council Elections will be sent to parents via the post.

Parents of Year 10 will have received a letter informing them of the Year 10 Netbook Program Information Evening being held on the 17th February. The information is being sent by post. Should you not have received the letter by the end of the week, you will be able to access it via the website. Only students whose parents who attend the information session will be able to access a netbook through the program. This evening is also open to students in Years 11 and 12 who would like to join the netbook program.

At the end of last year, reports were distributed to students in Years 7–11. It is disappointing to note that quite a number of reports were not collected. Students whose reports had not been collected were provided with them during the course of this week. Please ensure you ask your child about their reports should you not have seen it yet.

I would like to remind parents at this point that communication between parents and students during the course of the day must be through the front office or via Student Managers. Students are not allowed to use mobile phones to make calls during the school day and when parents ring them on their phones and their child responds, they are in effect supporting their child in breaking a school rule, for which there are consequences.

Any message or emergency can and will be relayed via the front office or Student Managers. I ask parents to support all our school rules. In the course of enrolling your child at Lalor Secondary College you have in effect stated that you agree with our policies and our rules, so your support is expected.

I hope you have all had a good start to 2015. I hope too that our students have started well and ensure they continue in the same way for an overall successful year in their respective year level.

Ms S. Sena
College Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS’ REPORTS

I would like to begin this year with a big welcome to the returning Year 8 students and the newest members of the Lalor Secondary College community, the 2015 Year 7 students and their parents. The Year 8 students are settling in well and the Year 7 students are quickly coming to grips with their lockers, timetables, new routines and lots of new people in their lives. For the students who ordered laptops, most of these computers were distributed to them this week, you will be able to access it via the website. Only students whose parents who attend the information session will be able to access a netbook through the program. This evening is also open to students in Years 11 and 12 who would like to join the netbook program.

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Student Managers for Year 7 are Mr Carey and Mrs Siryani and at Year 8 it is Mr Simpson and Mr Danher. The Sub School Leader for both these levels is Mr Cairns.

At this early stage of the year I need to make mention of a very important issue – student safety, particularly in and around the roads and streets surrounding the school and in the school car parks. A significant number of parents are using the Dalton Road Science Centre car park to drop off students at school in the mornings. This area is currently being made unsafe by cars stopping randomly and parking briefly in haphazard ways to drop students off. The students then walk or run through parked and moving cars which as you can appreciate, is extremely dangerous. I would ask parents dropping students off to endeavour to use the 3 minute school drop off zones on Dalton Road directly in front of the school or David Street where parking is permitted on the southern side of the street adjacent to the school.

Finally, there have been a number of important changes to the Secondary School Vaccine Program for 2015.

1. The vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

2. The time limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed last year. The HPV vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students (both male and female) from 2015.

Mr P. James
Assistant Principal Years 7 & 8

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to students and parents of our returning and new Year 9 and 10 students.

At this early stage of the year I would like to introduce the Year 9 and 10 team.

- Mrs Robyn Edwards will again be Sub-School Leader;
- Ms Nicole Salerno and Mr Sam Magnano are the Year 9 Student Managers;
- Ms Annette Spence and Mr Tony Wilkinson are the Year 10 Student Managers.

Should you wish to meet with any of the team please call to arrange an appointment.

For students in Year 9 and 10 these are very exciting and important years. I am pleased to have observed that all students have settled in very quickly to their new levels and classes. The Year 10 students have selected from a new range of specialist subjects to study and this provides a great opportunity to begin planning a pathway for future courses. Students will soon begin their planning for Work Experience which will take place in Semester 2. This is a great opportunity for students to really explore individual strengths and weaknesses and to get a firsthand insight into a field of work they may be interested in pursuing in future years. As parents you can encourage them to begin to investigate options through discussion of possible employment fields. Planning early will allow for a rewarding work experience placement. Further information will be provided shortly.

This year the Year 9 students have the opportunity to be involved in a range of exciting activities and pastoral care based learning, through the newly developed Explore Program.

As parents I encourage you to support your children to develop regular routines for homework. Monitor and check in with your teen about their progress. Ask them questions about their work and support them with their organisational planning required in readiness for the next school day. Be positive about their growth at school, praise their efforts and look for improvement and progress.

Your children are great! They are cooperative and respectful learners, and as teachers we look forward to having them in our classes.

SCHOOL VALUES
Pride Achievement Caring Cooperation Honesty

Congratulations to the following students who recently received School Values Cards for upholding our school values:

- Deanna Soliman
- Anthony Theofilaktos
- Joumana Albarri
- Nerida Leonard
- Mouhamed Assad
- Hajer Al Husainawy
- Matthew Smith

Mrs L. Forster
Assistant Principal Years 9 & 10

Welcome back to all members of the Lalor Secondary College community for 2015. At the end of 2014 the Year 12 students continued to consolidate the school’s reputation for performing well at the senior end of the school. The VCE class of 2014 achieved some fantastic results for the school with a median study score of 27. While a little lower than in 2013 we had 11 students achieving at the highest level after years of sacrifice and hard work achieving an ATAR over 85 which is a great result. We also had one student who managed to get a perfect score of 50 for one of the subjects she studied in 2014 which was a fantastic achievement. The school also achieved an excellent result in our VCAL program, with 97% of those in the senior VCAL class receiving their senior VCAL certificate.

The Student Management structure continues to be the same as 2014 with the continuation of the Sub-School Leader’s role. The Student Managers’ role will remain the same as last year in that they will manage the day to day dealings with students, parents and staff while the Sub-School Leaders role is to oversee both year levels and provide assistance and guidance specifically to the Student Managers. Parents should still make the Student Manager their first point of contact for any issue they need to raise with the school. The student management team that I will be working with in 2015 is listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senior Sub-School Leader</th>
<th>Year 11 Student Managers</th>
<th>Year 12 Student Managers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr Michael Watson</td>
<td>Ms Krystal Bussell</td>
<td>Mr Bishoy Aziz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Rachel Timos</td>
<td>Ms Jovanka Jovcevski</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
My other role of overseeing student management, policies and procedures within the school will continue and includes such tasks as overseeing the transition of students from one year to the next, as well as managing the process for reviewing our school’s policies and procedures. This year has continued to see a whole school approach to delivering our school’s expectations with all Student Managers delivering a very consistent message on day one for all students. This included celebrating the achievements of last year’s students, setting year level goals and outlining school policy. All students across all year levels now have a very clear understanding of what is expected from a successful student within Lalor Secondary College and we look forward to a very successful year across all year levels. A new policy for 2015 introduced to all students this week is the Personal Digital Device Policy. This policy will see teacher guided use of personal digital devices within the classroom. It also sees the continuation of the Netbook program with Year 10 students getting the opportunity to take up a school netbook, and for the first time Year 7 students are able to purchase and use their own lap tops within the classroom. All of the information about this new policy can be found on the school website.

Next week all parents who have children on probation will receive a letter with advice on how to improve their child’s academic performance, as well as advice on how to contact their son/daughter’s teachers within the school so they can be kept up to date on the progress of their child. This will be made easier in 2015 with the introduction of Compass as our student management system. Students have already received their log-in and passwords that enables them to access their own personal student account that shows them their timetable, news items, student bulletin, upcoming events and class resources and lesson plans. Parents will be provided with their own log-in and passwords in the coming weeks that will allow them with access to the Compass Parent Portal. This will provide similar information to that of their children with news items, timetables and event schedules listed for them to access.

I would also like to congratulate our Year 12 leadership team for 2015. While the school captains were elected at the end of 2014 the Year 12 house captains where announced at the first assembly held in 2015. The Lalor Secondary College school leaders for 2015 are:

**School Captains:** Aleksander Markovski  
Faith Tuitea

**Vice Captains:** Kenny Tran  
Julia Pavia

**Sport Captains:** Laura Salamone and Zachary Challis

**House Captains:** Tracy Luc  
Hana Youssef  
Zak Mirabelli  
Nerida Leonard.

I look forward to working with these students over the coming year and with the entire Year 12 cohort. I also had the pleasure of attending the Year 12 study skills conference at Lady Northcote YMCA, Glenmore, with the majority of Year 12 students on Tuesday this week. It was a terrific team building camp that provided students with key study skills and motivation for the year to come. I congratulate all of the attending students on their attentiveness throughout the camp and hope that every single one of them takes at least one aspect of the camp with them that will make them more successful in 2015.

I look forward to another successful year in 2015 for both staff and students, and if you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Mr C. Jewell**  
Assistant Principal – Years 11 & 12

**STUDENT PROGRAMS**

**MOTIVATIONAL MEDIA “JIGSAW”**

All students from Years 7-11 attended a motivational presentation delivered by Motivational Media on Wednesday. It is envisaged that students will take from the presentation key messages to assist them in life. The Jigsaw analogy in this year’s show, explained how life is like a jigsaw. Students will be asked by some of their teachers about the stories presented and what they found useful to them. There was no cost to students for this program.

**PEER LEADERSHIP**

Year 12 Peer Leaders have begun working with Year 7 students to assist in their transition to secondary school. During 2015, Peer Leaders will be assisting students in the classroom with academic support, in supporting identified students with literacy, by attending the afterschool homework club to assist in tutoring and in collaboration with the SRC, run lunch time clubs in a variety of areas. Our Peer Leaders are eager to support younger students at Lalor Secondary College. Congratulations to all Year 12 Peer Support Leaders on their selection.

**YEAR 9 EXPLORE**

All Year 9 students will begin a new subject in 2015 called “Explore”. Students will be offered the pastoral care program “SenseAbility” developed by Beyondblue, the Opening Doors mental health program, develop skills in working with the community and concentrate on careers and preparing for work experience for next year. Students are required to purchase a resource booklet each Semester at $5 each. The first semester booklet is available now. Payment is accepted at the front office.

**Melanie Hayward**  
Student Programs Leader

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School Captains: Aleksander Markovski & Faith Tuitea  
Vice Captains: Kenny Tran & Julia Pavia  
Sport Captains: Laura Salamone & Zachary Challis  
House Captains: Tracy Luc, Hana Youssef, Zak Mirabelli, Nerida Leonard.
AFTER SCHOOL HOMEWORK PROGRAM (ASH)

The Smith Family and Whittlesea Community Connections alongside Wellbeing Staff at LSC will continue to deliver the After School Homework Program (ASH) and provide ongoing support for students with their homework in 2015. The reasons students give for not completing their homework are varied and often include the following: not having a homework routine, the lack of a quiet place to study or not understanding the work set.

ASH will commence next Wednesday 11th February 2015 in the College Library between 3:15 and 4:30pm and every subsequent Wednesday for the duration of the term. Students will be provided with snacks and prizes on a weekly basis, and trained volunteer tutors will continue to be available for students during these sessions. Parent consent is required for students to attend. Consent forms are available from the General Office, or alternatively the Wellbeing Office – located in the library.

Wellbeing Team!!!

WHAT AN END TO THE YEAR!
- 2014’

Welcome back to the Lalor Secondary College community and families. Term One is up and running and it is pleasing to see the all the students that have settled in to the new school year and working diligently to improve their learning outcomes. I would personally like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and students who participated in the end year program last year. As you may recall, our program is a very unique one that offers our students a combination of core and choice lessons, as well as core and choice excursion and incursions. Students were able to select from a range of different activities from within the various key learning areas. As a result of these selections, all students received an individualised timetable based on their preferences and interests.

As previous years a raffle that was conducted for nominated students in Years 7 -9. To gain a ticket in this raffle, students had to be identified and entered by their teachers for displaying our school values, put simply ‘be caught doing the right thing’. A range of prizes were presented which included gift cards, store vouchers, movie tickets and small electronics, such as Bluetooth speakers. The winners at each year level were;

| Year 7 (2014) | Claire De Lorenzo, Ali Moussa, Meliz Bilgin |
| Year 8 (2014) | Rebecca Abbott, Johnny Huynh, Susan Samuel |
| Year 9 (2014) | Chloe Cucinotta, Zahra’a Ghafoory, Young Liu |

These students had to be in attendance on the day of school picnic to receive these great prizes.

I wish to again thank everyone for all their hard work in putting this program together. I would especially like to mention the contributions of Mr. Christou and all the KLA Leaders who were instrumental in designing the program as well as sorting through all the selections and formulating the new activities timetable. It is anticipated that a similar program continue to run at the end of 2015. We will be endeavouring to again design a program that is a positive, productive and fun to conclude the formal school year.

Kaylene Kubell
Curriculum Leader

LIBRARY NEWS

It has been wonderful to see so many students coming to the Library Resource Centre this week.

Students are warmly welcome to visit the Library.

The opening hours are as follows:

- Monday 8:20am to 4:00pm
- Tuesday 8:20am to 3:30pm
- Wednesday 8:20am to 4:00pm
- Thursday 8:20am to 4:00pm
- Friday 8:20am to 4:00pm

Note:
- The Library is closed at Recess every day.
- The Library closes early on Tuesdays

The opening hours may need to be adjusted occasionally due to library staff commitments, for example, to attend staff meetings and professional learning activities as required. At such times, every effort will be made to alert students to the changed hours via Daily Student Bulletins and notices in the library.

Ms Susanne Graetsch
Library Resource Centre Manager

CHEERLEADING:

Any student, male or female, interested in being a part of the Lalor Secondary College Cheerleading Team must attend try-outs on Friday 13th February, 3.30-5.00pm in the school gym. Any student interested, must collect a permission slip from Miss. Leckie (gym office) and return it by the day of the try-outs. Student’s must be able to commit to training every Friday 3.30-5.00pm from Terms 1 to Term 3 and be free to compete in the two weekend competitions which are the following dates (Saturday or Sunday TBC).

WCC starts 18th & 19th July & AASCF starts on the 18th to 20th of September (first weekend of Term 3 holidays) both at MSAC.

Ms V. Leckie
Health & Physical Education Leader
2015 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 Monday 16th February, 2015.

UNIFORM SHOP

UNIFORM & STATIONERY SHOP HOURS

Monday: 10.30am – 2.30pm
Tuesday: 10.30am – 3.30pm
Wednesday: 3.00pm – 6.00pm

Mrs G. Williams
Uniform Shop Manager
Direct Phone No: 9463 7331

Parents please note:
Our green and navy pullovers are made from a wool and polyester blend. They need to be washed in a wood wash, not in a washing powder with bleach as the colour is being stripped out of the fabric.

Mrs Williams
Shop Manager

KNITTING CLUB – THURSDAY LUNCHTIME ROOM 308

Students are invited to come to learn to knit poppies for the Gallipoli 100-year celebrations on Anzac Day.

Our poppies will be on display at school, then at Epping RSL on Anzac Day.

Donations of red wool would be appreciated.

If parents would like to knit some poppies for Anzac Day please contact me in the uniform shop on 9463 7331.

Mrs Glenys Williams
Knitting Club Coordinator