PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Last week I, along with a room of Principal class members and school staff from both the Primary and Secondary School sector, participated in a Professional Learning Activity conducted by Maria Ruberto looking at ‘The Science of Wellbeing’. This was a wonderful opportunity to experience an engaging and enthusiastic speaker on the topic of wellbeing and resilience—not only for myself and those who work with me but more so for our most important people—our future—our students. Maria’s presentation included tools to use for our own wellbeing and that of others.

These applications of psychology are anchored by research in neuroscience and brain function—and framed by the science of optimism. Maria’s focus was on Martin Seligman’s PERMA model of wellbeing which underpins a Positive Psychology program. I have included a TED Talk by Seligman:

http://www.ted.com/talks/martin_seligman_on_the_state_of_psychology
Needless to say, I came away with strategies to use on the S.O.C. (Principal’s advisory Group) who joined me in testing her theory and yes, it works. The research shows that we need to participate in more Positive Education with our students to offer them the greatest opportunity for future success. But to do that, it is important we engage in learning so as to put theory and research into practice.

As a school our goal is to continually work on equipping our students with a range of strategies to use in their daily life, both at school and beyond the school gates. On June 9th all members of the College staff will be involved in Professional Learning based around Positive Education. I am looking forward to this opportunity as our focus is not only on positive emotions: gratitude, strength, and ‘feeling good’ but also about holistic living and education. This includes understanding the value and importance of so-called ‘negative’ emotions (anger is key for social justice, sadness and disappointment are part of the human experience), and looks at constructive ways to manage our emotional responses to live well.

I look forward to updating the school community as we begin and continue this journey.

More links to help your child:
Positive Parenting Tips about how you can support and encourage your children to do their best:  

‘Turn that frown upside down’ an interesting article from The Age  
NAPLAN
NAPLAN testing for Years 7 and 9 was held May 10 – 12. We await the results, which will be available in August, and anticipate that our students have done themselves and our school proud.

Exam Preparation
As we approach the end of Semester all students will be completing assessment which, in most instances, will include a written exam.

This is often a difficult and stressful time for students especially if they have not prepared adequately for the exams. To ensure they are properly prepared students should make sure they complete all homework tasks and allow sufficient time for study.

It is important to note that homework and study are two different skills and both are required for success at school. Homework is set by the teacher but study may not be formally discussed. It is up to each student to be reviewing their work regularly, summarising notes/formula and organising their thoughts so that they can identify both their strengths and weaknesses. Any areas of difficulty should then be discussed with their teacher.

Ambulance Cover
We strongly encourage parents to have up-to-date ambulance cover. Parents are responsible for any medical expenses such as ambulance costs incurred if their child is injured or requires an ambulance at school or whilst participating in a school activity at another location.
End of Semester Exams

The end of semester exams are approaching and the exam timetable has been posted on Compass. It is time for all Senior School students, in particular the Year 12’s, to do whatever it takes to ‘CROSS THE LINE’.

I recommend all Senior School students go through the VCAA Study Design for each subject and ensure all dot points have been learnt. These can be obtained from http://vCAA.vic.edu.au.

Academic success also depends on how a student studies outside the classroom. At most, 25% of exam questions involve only recall. The other 75% of questions involve application of knowledge in varying contexts. It is important, therefore, to use revision materials that have this balance. At Senior School this is best done by using past VCAA Exams. These can be downloaded from http://vCAA.vic.edu.au.

It is also essential that students time themselves to ensure the exam is completed in the set time. When practicing at home students should train themselves to use the full 15 minutes reading time to look though the whole exam and come to terms with it. Top VCE students gain an advantage from the effective use of reading time. They never leave an exam early.

Students are encouraged to seek assistance from their teachers prior to their examinations if they are experiencing difficulties. They can gain additional support by attending the homework club on Tuesday afternoons in IT3. In addition, many Unit 3&4 subjects have EDROLO study materials and students are encouraged to take full advantage of this at http://EDROLO.com.au.

The GAT

The General Achievement Test (GAT) will be conducted on Tuesday 7 June for all Year 12 students and Year 11 students studying a Unit 3 and 4 subject.

The GAT is an essential part of the VCE assessment procedure and all students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3 and 4 sequence must sit it.

Although GAT results do not count directly towards a student’s VCE results, they play an important role. It is important therefore that students treat the GAT seriously and try as hard as possible.

The VCAA will use students’ GAT scores as a basis for:

- contributing to statistical moderation of school based assessment results
- checking the accuracy of examination marking
- calculating a derived examination score, if required

To assist students with the GAT a trial GAT will be conducted on Wed 1 June with feedback provided to students before the actual exam.
June Break Revision – Units 3&4
The June break from Saturday 25 June to Sunday 10 July is not a holiday for Unit 3 & 4 students. Students need to plan this time carefully and should devise a personal study programme to cover all subjects. This should include appropriate rest times and days off for recreation.

An important aspect for each Unit 3&4 subject is the preparation of summary notes. Students should use the ‘Chunking Down’ technique covered at the Year 12 Retreat and ensure that they seek assistance from their teachers if necessary.

Unit 3 Subject Summaries should be completed this break.
On return to school, there is only term 3 and a few weeks of term 4 to complete Unit 4.

September Break – Unit 3&4 Trial Exams
Students and parents/guardians should note that we will be conducting Unit 3&4 Trial Examinations in the first week of the September break. This will assist students with their study programme and allow them a full three weeks of classes after the break. These Trial Exams will be full VCAA length exams and the final practice for our students. Attendance is compulsory. Specific arrangements will be communicated to students and parents/guardians in due course.

In line with the 2016 Year 12 theme, I encourage all Senior School Students to strive for improvement and do that little bit extra to ‘CROSS THE LINE’.
NAPLAN Testing Week
Dear Parents/Guardians,
This past week all Year 7 and 9 students took part in the national NAPLAN testing process. NAPLAN is the means by which students are tested as to whether they are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. This process provides a guide as to a child’s progress through school and identifies areas of weakness requiring further attention and improvement. Areas tested include reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy.
The same report format is used for every student throughout Australia and a NAPLAN report will be issued by our school later in the year. Parents/Guardians will be notified when reports are sent.
For more information about NAPLAN:
• visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
• contact school
• contact the Victorian education authority (details available on the NAP website).

After School Science Program
Mr Hem once again delighted an enthusiastic group of Grade 6 students with his dazzling knowledge of science. Students from a range of primary schools including Oakleigh South, Amsleigh Park, Oakleigh, Huntingdale and Hughesdale participated in an eight week program which covered dry ice experiments, dissections, balloon powered cars and much more.

Next year Science will form part of the accelerated program at South Oakleigh. Science helps us understand and overcome our limitations and compels us to question the world around us. It is responsible for life changing events. Imagine life without antibiotics or Isaac Newton and his law of universal gravitation or Louis Pasteur and his experiments with bacteria. All were discovered through the pursuit of Science.

A few comments from Grade 6 students:
Science is awesome!
Doing experiments was fun!
We tried so many different things!
I learnt how to use science equipment and chemicals.
The cow eye muscle was smelly!
Writing Workshops for students in Middle School

Once again we are excited to have Skye Melki-Wegner present a six week writing workshop for selected students in the Middle School.

What are the writing workshops?
In writing workshops class lessons are tightly focused on practical real world issues. As in professional writing workshops, emphasis is placed on sharing work with the class, peer conferencing and editing and the collection of a variety of work in a writing folder. Eventually, this will form a portfolio.

Teachers write with their students and share their work. The workshop setting encourages students to think of themselves as writers and take their writing seriously. A writing workshop is a popular method of organising classes while effectively encouraging and improving student writing. It is based on the theory that students write best when they write frequently for extended periods of time on topics of their own choosing.

Workshops will commence June 16th.

Skye Melki-Wegner

Skye Melki-Wegner is an Arts/Law graduate from Melbourne. She has worked as a saleswoman, an English tutor and a popcorn-wrangler (at a cinema). In her spare time, she devours a ridiculous amount of caffeine and fantasy literature. Chasing the Valley is Skye's first series and has already been sold internationally. Skye lives in Melbourne.
SPACE UNIVERSITY TOUR
Texas, Florida, U.S.A.
September 2017.

USA: Science & Space University Tour
INFORMATION MEETING

All parents and students interested in the September 2017 USA Science & Space Tour Program are invited to an information evening:

DATE: Wednesday June 8th, 2016
TIME: 6:45pm (registration from 6:30pm)
WHERE: South Oakleigh College
ROOM: Theatre

The USA: Science and Space University Tour Program provides students and staff with the opportunity to participate in a challenging engineering mission at NASA Johnston Space Centre’s Space University in Houston, Texas. The Space University program facilitates teamwork, problem solving, communication, and adaptation to unexpected problems. Students will develop tools to improve critical thinking skills, creativity, fiscal responsibility and the drive to be successful. The Johnston Space Centre is Mission Control for most Space missions including acting as operations centre for the International Space Station.

The tour itinerary includes visits to Orlando, Florida (Kennedy Space Centre, Universal Studios, and Walt Disney World). Flights, accommodations, most meals, sightseeing, transfers and more are included in the program.

Students travel as part of a supervised group with a teacher from South Oakleigh College as Group Leader.

The Group Leader co-ordinating this event, Mr Ram, will be in attendance at the parent information evening, along with a representative from EWT who will explain the program in detail, distribute application documents and answer any questions.

GROUP CONTACT: Mr Ram (Mr De La Rambelya: Science Learning Area Head) – 03 9575 2322
EWT REPRESENTATIVE: Ms Shanaan Carter – Email: shanaan.carter@ewt.com.au, OR 0418 009 364

PLEASE DETACH & RETURN THIS SLIP TO MR RAM OR FRONT OFFICE. ATTENDANCE IS IMPERATIVE TO PARTICIPATE
☐ We will attend the USA Science & Space Tour information evening
☐ We are unable to attend, but wish to be contacted with more information about the USA S&S Tour

Student Name: ___________________________ Year/Class: ___________________________

Parent Name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________

EWT Home Office: (03) 9575 2322
Locales: (03) 9575 2322 (FAX) (03) 9505 2322 (E-MAIL: info@ewt.com.au)
Educational Travel World: (03) 9575 2322 (FAX) (03) 9505 2322 (E-MAIL: info@ewt.com.au)
Ancient Civilisations

Our Greek Language Assistant Kathey Zinelis gave the history class another wonderful lecture on the Peloponnesian War. She related the events that lead to the war and the consequences for both Sparta and Athens.

The Peloponnesian Wars, fought between Athens and Sparta and their respective allies came in two stages: the first from 460 to 446 BCE and the second, and more significant war, from 431 to 404 BCE. With battles occurring at home and abroad, the long and complex conflict was damaging to both sides. Finally Sparta, with financial help from Persia won the conflict by destroying the Athenian fleet at Aegospotami in 405 BCE.

‘Never had so many human beings been exiled, or so much human blood been shed’. Thucydides – Greek Historian.
TV Studio Success

Season 2 of SOCTV On Air has premiered with a new batch of episodes on YouTube. Our students have been rubbing shoulders with celebrities from all over the world through our state-of-the-art TV Studio and are excited to share these episodes with you. They have been working hard during Term 2 to bring you these episodes, which have been written and produced entirely by our students.

SOCTV has provided students with a taste of the world of professional media. We have been recognized by RMIT and Deakin Universities as a fantastic training ground for students. Many of last year’s SOCTV alumni are now studying Media & Communication and Creative Industries at these institutions. We’re proud of them!

Our channel has also been recognised by Educator Magazine with a Gold Innovative Schools Award.

New episodes are already online, so make sure to search YouTube for ‘SOCTV’.

Mr Aidan Prewett
Media & Music Teacher
Parliament Of Youth Of The Hellenic Republic

Elisavet Stavrinou, a Year 10 student, participated in the contest for the ‘Parliament of Youth’ of the Hellenic Republic. She excelled in her score and was chosen to be a member of this parliament at the 21st meeting to be held in Athens, Greece, in July 2016.

Since 1994 the Hellenic Parliament Foundation has organised, in close cooperation with the Ministry of National Education in Greece, this educational program. ‘The Parliament of Youth’ is a youth parliament hosted within the Hellenic Parliament annually. Three hundred youth between the ages of sixteen and twenty are selected through an online competition, including a variety of creative activities. Participants are from the 260 constituencies around Greece, as well as twenty from Cyprus and twenty from countries around the world with vibrant Greek communities, such as Australia. The aim of the organisation is the active participation of young Greeks in the political life of the country in order to help them become committed and responsible citizens.

The structure of the Youth Parliament resembles that of the actual Hellenic Parliament. The parliament’s main organ is the plenary, which is made up of all delegates. Students also form five parliamentary committees that are identical to the existing ones:
- Committee of Defence & Foreign Affairs
- Committee of Educational Affairs
- Committee of Finance, Production and Commerce
- Committee of Public Administration, Public Order & Justice
- Committee of Social Affairs

Elisavet participated in the competition and completed a variety of creative activities. These included online tests about constitutional democracy and its history, the formation of the Greek parliament and art and culture of modern Greece. She provided essays, photos and a video on school life, including the social interests of a teenage member of the Youth Parliament. She also created a screenplay based on classic theatrical text.

Elisavet will represent South Oakleigh College, the Victorian educational system and the Greek community of Australia when she participates in the Parliament of Youth in Athens later this year.
In Year 7B Food Technology we made pikelets/thick pancakes. The pancakes had a variety of toppings; either sweet: raspberry, banana, chocolate, caramel, strawberry, ice cream and cinnamon-sugar; or savoury: bacon, cheese, spring onion and creamed corn. Students worked in groups and enthusiastically completed their task making delicious pancakes in our refurbished food technology centre. Students thoroughly enjoyed eating their creations.

It is very satisfying teaching our students a life skill. I hope pancakes will now be on the menu regularly at home!

Ms Renata Tilbey
Food Technology
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre: Year 8 and 9 Incursion
On 4th May Jenn from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre came to our school to talk to Years 8 and 9 about refugees as it linked with what we are learning in our Social Justice and Global Citizenship classes. Jenn covered important information such as: why refugees decide to leave their home country, the difficulties they face, how countries are helping, and most important of all, what we can do to help them. I really thought that going to the theatre to listen to Jenn was a period well spent. She was an inspiring person who told us the truth about refugees which was totally different to what we hear in the media. She helped me to realise how lucky we are and that it is our responsibility to help them.
Not only was the presentation really interesting but it helped me as it fitted in perfectly with what we are learning in Social Justice. Currently we are studying about human rights and doing a debate about issues such as the refugee crisis. The information Jenn gave us was perfect to include in our debates. This talk was enjoyable and I look forward to her coming again.

By Mathew Vellamcheril 8C
South Oakleigh Careers Expo
A Pathway to Your Future
On the 13th May South Oakleigh College hosted a Careers Expo. We were privileged to have speakers from the following universities: RMIT, Monash, Deakin and the Australian Catholic University talk to our Year 10, 11 and 12 students about pathways, courses, scholarships and life at university. At the end of the presentations students had the opportunity to ask questions.

Year 8 and 9 students attended a presentation from the Australian Defence Force on the variety of careers available within the force. After the event many students spoke to representatives to gain information about interesting jobs they may wish to pursue.
Other tertiary providers that participated in the Careers Expo were La Trobe University, Holmesglen Institute, Box Hill Institute, Victoria University, Swinburne University, JMC Academy, William Angliss, ACAP Australian College of Applied Psychology, AGA Apprenticeships Plus and Lattitude Global Volunteering.

It was an exciting day where students had the opportunity to approach tertiary providers and visit a variety of stalls in the foyer area to collect valuable information.
**Studying Business at VU**

VU’s Bachelor of Business degree offers choice and flexibility: after a common first year students can choose from 13 specialisations or 78 double specialisation combinations. The Bachelor of Commerce offers specialised studies in international business or applied finance. With either degree, students are assisted in integrating workplace learning into their degree, providing additional advantages for graduates.

Find out more at [Work Integrated Learning at VU](http://www.vu.edu.au). Browse the Business College website for more information about studying business at VU - [College of Business at VU](http://www.vu.edu.au/college-of-business)

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**Experience La Trobe University**

Experience La Trobe is designed especially for Year 10, 11 and 12 students and their parents to get a taste of what it is like to be a university student for a day and get the inside scoop on what really happens after high school. Students may participate in workshops of their choice, find out about student life and also check out the Melbourne campus, including student accommodation. University students and staff will be there to help participants and answer any questions that might arise.

Experience La Trobe is a *free* event - with lunch and entertainment provided!

**Date:** Thursday 7 July 2016  
**Venue:** Melbourne Campus

To register, visit [Experience La Trobe Melbourne](http://www.latrobe.edu.au), or email study@latrobe.edu.au for more information.

To find out about the dates and times of Experience La Trobe at its other campuses, visit [Experience La Trobe](http://www.latrobe.edu.au)
News from ACU

University Experience Day

*University Experience Day* is a hands-on, fun, *free* event, where students will be able to participate in a range of activities related to the course area of their choice. Students will have the opportunity to meet ACU staff and current students, mingle with other prospective students, and get a good feel for the Melbourne or Ballarat campus.

The University Experience Day at the Melbourne Campus will take place on **Tuesday 5 July 2016**. Students can choose workshops from a range of ACU study areas, including nursing, midwifery, business, paramedicine, education, physiotherapy, psychology, public health, exercise science, theology and lots more! **Interested students in years 10 – 12 should register online now as places are limited and fill up fast!** Visit and register at [University Experience Day](#)

Early Achievers’ Program

As a Year 12 student do you demonstrate leadership in your school or workplace, coordinate a community initiative, volunteer in a local cultural, sporting or religious group or provide care to someone in need?

Australian Catholic University’s *Early Achievers’ Program (EAP)* recognises a student’s potential to achieve great things. Gaining a place in the desired course is dependent on meeting the University’s minimum entry requirements and subject prerequisites, regardless of success in the program.

The program operates at each of the University’s six campuses nationally. Applications will open in August and close in October with offers being made by the end of November 2016.

Students are encouraged to start gathering the required documentation to submit with their application. Students that fail to meet all the requirements for the EAP will not be considered for the program. **Find out more at Early Achievers’ Program**
Senior Boys' Basketball

On Monday 16th May the South Oakleigh College Senior Boys Basketball team participated in a round-robin event at Dandenong Stadium. We won two very exciting games, the highlight being turning the game around to win against Wheelers Hill.

We are proud of the effort from all the boys in the team, in particular the sportsmanship shown and their high standard of play.

The team consisted of: Cross Ferrer, Derrick Cen, Benjamin Cheng, Hayden Everett, Clyde Lariba, Leomar Legado, Leigh McIntyre, Zion Nelthropp, Max Serralbo and Dean Rampoortab. Thanks should also go to Anthea Nikodemou and Katerina Moshopoulos for helping out on the day.
Australian Greek Welfare Society Family & Relationships Service

This service offers

- Support to individuals and groups affected by family disputes (couples, relationship between parents and children, separation/divorce, extended family, relationships between grandparents and grandchildren) domestic violence, elder abuse, relationships affected by alcohol and drug abuse, gambling, mental health, loss and grief.
- Counselling to individuals and families to understand, manage and overcome personal and emotional issues and difficulties in their relationships with others.
- Information and education/skills training on parenting in each stage of a child’s development.
- Relationship counselling and support for culturally mixed relationships/marriages.
- Carers support.
- Support for vulnerable and socially disadvantaged, marginalized people.
- Stress and conflict management, communication, prioritizing and goal setting, coping with change, (relationships, work, finances, health).
- Wellbeing and enhancement of health.
- Support for newly arrived families in the area of relationships.
- Resource development.
- Collaborations and referrals to specialty Family Relationships services.
- Peer support and education for professionals who work with culturally and linguistically diverse families.
- Provision of culturally and linguistically relevant services and linkage to other supports.

2016 AGWS FAMILY & RELATIONSHIP WORKSHOPS AT:

CLAYTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
8 – 15 COOKE STREET, CLAYTON
Trial Right Turn Ban – Windsor Avenue, Oakleigh South

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to draw your attention to a notice received from City of Monash. There will be a trial ban on right turn movements at the intersection of Centre Road and Windsor Avenue, Oakleigh South.

What will be installed:

To improve safety and traffic flow during peak times, minimise delays and queuing as well as reducing driver frustration, VicRoads with Council will temporarily ban right turn movements at WInsor Avenue by installing a No Right Turn, 8.00 - 9:30am & 2.30 - 4.00pm School Days sign as shown on the plan overleaf. The sign is expected to be installed within the next few working days.

Please note that the No Right Turn ban will be implemented on a trial basis and will only apply during the peak periods for about six months. VicRoads with Council will review the operation of the intersection at the end of the year 2016 to have a more thorough assessment of the site.

We are seeking your feedback on the trial of the right turn ban and please forward any comments you may have to Meng Chia from Monash Council on 9518 3437 or Wilson Foo from VicRoads on 9881 8958.

Yours sincerely

TONG TE
Acting Principal Transport Engineer

Administration News

Statements were recently sent out to families. Please contact the College if you have any questions about outstanding charges. Our number is 9579 2322.
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Mount Waverley

Saturday 9:00am - 11:30am
High Street Road Uniting Church
314 High Street Road
Mount Waverley

Saturday 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Clayton North Primary School
174 Chesser Avenue
Clayton
Please note: South Oakleigh College and DET do not endorse or accept responsibility for any products or services of any private advertisements.