Term 2 - 2016:
Issue 15  27th May

MAY:
Wed 25-Sat 28: School Production
Legally Blonde
Tuesday 31st  May

JUNE:
Sun 05: Sports Aerobics State Championships
Tue 07: GAT Yr 12 VCE students and any Yr 11 student doing a Yr 12 subject
Mon 13: Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
Mon 20: Student Free Day
Fri 24th: Last day term 2

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL:
Pick up and Drop Off:
The start and the end of the day is a very busy time for the College both in the car park and on the Belgrave-Gembrook road.

To ensure the safety of all our students, parents, bus drivers and community who use the main Belgrave-Gembrook Road, can I remind all parents to make sure that they follow the signs regarding the Drop Off Zones and No Standing Zone.

Unfortunately some parents are waiting and parking in the No Standing lanes causing traffic congestion not only in the car park but also on the main road. Waiting in the No Standing Zones is also causing traffic jams that are preventing our buses from running.

Legally Blonde the Musical:
As a College Principal it is always a pleasure to see students and staff working together for the benefit of the students and the College. One of the most beneficial ways to see this in action is in the annual school production.

On Wednesday night I had the greatest honour to attend the opening night of our College production, Legally Blonde.

The incredible number of hours and effort that students and staff, supported by our parent community have put into the show really shone from the moment I walked into the foyer. With the cast engaging with the audience in full character before the show began, the audience was immersed into all things ‘pink’.

Words really can’t describe, or do justice to the outstanding production, performance, vocal talents and music, costumes, sets and the sound and the lighting. I congratulate and thank all those involved in the show.

Sports Update
55 of our students competed at the District Cross Country Championships. We received confirmation on Thursday this week that Emerald Secondary College placed 3rd overall.

It was also confirmed that 23 of the students who raced have qualified for the Eastern District Zone which means they placed in the top ten of their respective age groups. I would like to congratulate all students involved, and in particular, the following students:

•U13 1st Place: Ashlee Bowden
•U14 1st Place: Kai Gelastopolous
•U14 3rd Place: Hudson Jenner
•U15 3rd Place: Daniel Oudyk

Jodie Doble
Principal
CLASS VISITS:
Recently I had a student ask me why do you come into different classes? At the time I wasn’t sure whether the student wanted me to leave or was genuinely interested. After some discussion with them about my role at the College in getting out of the office and seeing what is happening in the classroom I felt that they appreciated just how much all staff are interested in building a learning culture. As I visit classes I like to ask a couple of important questions:
- What are you doing this period?
- Why do you think you are learning this?
- How do you think it can benefit you in the future?

Inevitably these question make students reflect on their learning and in most cases they are able to answer these to a high degree of confidence — which is a credit to our hard working teaching staff. It is important that as a College we continue to strive for excellence in all areas that dialogue between the students and staff continue to occur around learning and what good learning as well as good teaching looks like. I look forward to continuing to get out and about.

SOCIAL MEDIA 101:
As teachers and educators we are well aware of the vast array of technological changes in education in the past 10 years — a trend that looks likely, in this new age, to continue. For many parents these changes can be confronting.

I recently came across an article by Pitsa Binnion, Principal of McKinnon Secondary College where she talked about parents experiencing information overload when it came to online social networking and associated activities that students are involved in. She states that whilst technology offers young people many advantages it also can come with inherent risks and disadvantages and it’s not always easy for parents to navigate through this.

Many parents resort to the net when seeking advice on how to best plan for, assist and seek advice on social media tools for their kids — and why not, as there are endless websites full of advice out there.

What I wanted to highlight was that Parents Victoria have recently released a ‘Social Media 101’ guide for parents that is a well-balanced, carefully collected guide that has provided information and support for families. The following address takes you to the guide: https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/do-you-know-difference-between-twitter-instagram-your-berry

EMERALD SECONDARY FAREWELLS MALCOLM SUSSMAN:
Just this last week the College farewelled Mr Sussman who had taught at the College for over 10 years, but all up in teaching for over 40 years — an incredible achievement. Malcolm was much loved by students for his ability to entertain and regale them with his many life stories.

He certainly had lots of them and one particular story was when he performed at the Royal Court in England with a young Helen Mirren no less. Malcolm’s love, apart from seeing kids thrive, was also Shakespeare and he could often be heard many rooms away with his various impersonations of Shakespeare’s works.

Malcolm was a teacher who gave his all for kids and often it was the kids who seemed to battle at times. They were the ones who many teachers can often struggle to get real productive results with but he achieved remarkable results with them. Malcolm’s passion of directing and acting will continue on and possibly increase now that he has more time in retirement. On behalf of the College community past and present we wish you all the very best in retirement Malcolm!

Mike Jaremczuk & Estelle Elder  Assistant Principals

MUSIC SOIREE:
Date: 31st May 2016  Time: 7pm  Place: EPAC  Cost $4 per person, (ESC Students and under 15 free)
On behalf of the instrumental department I would like to welcome you to attend the Winter Concert next week. Concerts such as these are important to develop confidence in performance. The students have been working hard to perform a wide range of musical styles from Rock to Classical, Funk to Soul. It will be a really great night of music from Emerald’s finest performers. I look forward to seeing you on the night.

Ross Crowley Instrumental Music
FREE DRESS DAY POSTPONED:
Free dress day on Friday June 3. It will be a gold coin donation event with the money supporting school programs including the Science Department and the Astronomy Club. Regarding the dress expectations we must comply with OH&S regulations and this means
2. No thongs or open toed shoes
3. No singlet tops
4. No short shorts/mini skirts
5. Any student who has a PE class must bring with them their ESC PE uniform to change into
6. Any student who has a technology class must ensure they have the appropriate footwear for technology.

GIRLS FOOTBALL: YRS 7-9:
Today was an awesome day! All of the girls showed great sportsmanship to each other and the opposition as we proved our footy skills on the field. Overall, the girls finished third, losing their first game in the last 10 seconds of the game.

“We smashed it in the second and third game, winning 79-0 and 53-0. The girls shared the ball around evenly and were very impressive when we got a solid 6 marks and kicks to each other finishing with a goal! Competition was tough but the Emerald girls were tougher. Bad luck girls we’ll get them next time!!”

Holly R, Millie and Heidi M

Great effort girls. I was very proud of your endeavour, skill level and willingness to help each other in each of the three games played. Unfortunately we got pipped at the finish but could not fault your behaviour and resolve during the day. It was a fantastic team effort. Some of the better players over the day included Ruby J, Ella G, Sarah T, Kathryn G and Montana L.

Mr Nicholas Team Manager
On Wednesday 18th of May, ESC’s SAGA (Sexuality And Gender Acceptance) group celebrated IDAHOT (International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia), by selling cupcakes and badges. The money raised was donated to Minus18, a LGBTQI+ youth organisation based in Melbourne.

The day was a success, with over $250 raised. SAGA have celebrated this day in the past and plan to host other events throughout the year. #ForTheGays. Hayley Todd

NEW ID CARDS: All students should now have a Student ID card. Students are expected to have the card on them at all times while at school. If any student did not receive an ID card they should see Mr Sidney in D block Staffroom.

If a student has lost their ID card they will need to purchase a new one at a cost of $10. This new card can be ordered and paid through compass. Click on the organisation button (9 squares in a square) and click on order a new Compass ID card.

YEAR 8 GIRLS NETBALL:
Wow, what a day! The Year 8 Girls Netball team showed great sportsmanship and fought hard in every game. Lainey, Chloe and Daisy did a fantastic job in shooting, Jazzy and Heidi Osterlund made it very difficult for the other team to score with their defence. The other girls Heidi Mitchell, Lily and Skyla did a great job controlling the middle of the court. Over all it was a really fun day and the girls finished equal third, good job girls! Coaches - Millie and Holly, Miss Ferg was an awesome bus driver. Thanks for a fun day miss.
Holly Rasmussen and Millie Preston.
TRIP—Teenage Road Information Program
The College is delighted to host the upcoming TRIP (Teenage Road Information Program) which is being held at the College on Thursday 16th June 7.30-9.30pm and run by the Emerald Emergency Services Group. This continues our focus throughout the College and broader community on road safety. The TRIP Program is a program designed for young drivers that gives an insight into what happens to road crash victims and shows the far reaching effects of road trauma. It is a realistic and honest presentation delivered by the very people who respond to the crash scene and know first-hand the devastation caused. This is a FREE community event and we encourage every young driver or learner to attend.
We encourage all parents of young L and P plate drivers to attend this event with their son and daughter. Light refreshments will be served on the night.