Principal’s Report

Celebration of Student Leaders
All student leaders have now been elected and they will be inducted into their positions at a special assembly on Monday 17th March to receive their badges. Photos and student names are included within this newsletter. Congratulations to all students and we look forward to a most productive year together!

Parent Forum on Homework
Thank you to the group of parents, friends and some students who attended our Parent Forum on the issue of homework. We had robust discussions and the overwhelming response from the parent group who attended, expressed their opinion that they felt homework was valuable to prepare students to help organise their time, and to complete tasks to a high level. The discussion centred on the need for students to be well prepared for Years 10, 11 and especially Year 12, where demands to complete a high volume of work is very great. Currently our suggested homework study times are as follows (five times per week):

- Year 7 – 30-45 minutes
- Year 8 – 45-60 minutes
- Year 9 – 60-80 minutes
- Year 10 – 80-100 minutes
- Years 11/12 – minimum 2 hours

Staff have been asked to set student homework on the Student Management Tool (SMT) software on each student’s computer. Last year Mr Jeans, our Assistant Principal, surveyed a large number of students and the results indicated that the majority of students were not using their diaries. As such, the College, endorsed by School Council, has moved to a new system where staff log on and send homework to each student’s computer on the SMT. If students wish to purchase their own hard copy diary, they are of course able to and then record their own version of homework to be completed.

Parent Teacher Interviews
We look forward to meeting with as many parents as possible at our Parent Teacher Interview evening to be held on Wednesday 12 March between 3.45 and 6.45pm in the Year 7/8 Learning Centre.

Communication
At the Parent Forum held last week, it was made clear to me that Parents are unclear of some of the calendar dates etc. Calendar dates are published in our newsletter which is printed every 3 weeks. Newsletters are usually distributed from Wednesday onwards:

**Dates for Term 1 include:**
- Week 3 – starting Monday 10th February
- Week 6 – starting Monday 3rd March
- Week 9 – starting Monday 24th March

**Dates for Term 2:**
- Week 2 – starting Monday 28th April
- Week 5 – starting Monday 19th May
- Week 8 – starting Monday 9th June

The newsletter is also available to download from our website: www.nobleparksc.vic.edu.au

Transition Program
On Friday 21st March our College will be hosting a special transition program for our local feeder schools. In order to facilitate staffing this event, Noble Park Secondary College School Council has endorsed our Year 9 and 10 students to have a student free day on that day. Please communicate with me if this arrangement will cause any hardship for you.

Congratulations
Congratulations and Good Luck to Nigel Toafa and Romann Leota who will both travel to Sydney to take part in the Victorian State U16 Rugby Championships.

Pam Dyson Principal

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**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 10 March</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday - No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews 3.45 - 6.45 Learning Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Interschool Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13</td>
<td>House Swimming Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Annual General Meeting 6pm Staff Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19</td>
<td>Year 9/10 students not required at school. Transition Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>2.30pm Finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21</td>
<td>Noble Park Secondary College Open Day/Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Teacher Professional Learning - Student Free day for all students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 24</td>
<td>End Term 1 - 2.30pm finish</td>
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<td>Wednesday 26</td>
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<td>Thursday 27</td>
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<td>Friday 4 April</td>
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School Netbook Program
One of the great things about our College is the Netbook Program that runs from years 7-12. Many schools do not have such a program. We are finding the Program to be of great benefit in the classroom for our students. The Program is co-funded from Parent and School contributions and students have free access to the internet (filtered), information about their learning and timetable, access to previous school reports and colour printers. They also have access to industry standard high quality software such as the Adobe suite and Microsoft office.

It is essential that all students have access to a device. There are a range of options available for Parent and Students; please call in at the office for a brochure explaining each option.

Updated Netbooks
At the end of 2013 we obtained some new updated Netbook models, with larger screens and more powerful microprocessors. These have been issued to the Year 7’s and other interested students who have paid their lease installment. However there are still limited quantities available for those who wish to enter into a new lease in years 10, 11 or 12.

Apple iMac Lab
As part of our commitment to advancing the role of technology in education, we have recently added 25 new wide screen Apple iMac computers to one of our Technology rooms. These new computers will assist our students to understand how to do things a different way, as well as supporting our Multimedia Students in their studies.

School Excursions – Returning Notes
A quick reminder that all excursions operated by the college require students to bring back a signed permission form. Students are not permitted to attend excursion without returning a signed form.

Traffic Management Plan
Thank you to all parents for the extra care that they take when picking-up and dropping off their children every day. Currently we are accident free in regard to this, but to ensure that things are as safe as possible, we are in the process of reviewing our traffic management plan.
In the near future we will be:
• Roping off the front area between the bollards – to restrict students walking out directly onto the road
• Adding extra bollards to the driveway near the new Learning Centre
• Reminding students and yard duty teachers about the safest route for pedestrians at the front of the school

Peter Jeans
Assistant Principal

Curriculum News

TEACHING & LEARNING FRAMEWORK - Every Teacher-Every Lesson-Every Day
We introduced the Noble Park Teaching and Learning Framework to achieve a consistent approach in all classes, maintaining high standards of professionalism to achieve the best possible learning outcomes for all students.

OVERVIEW:
► Improve teaching effectiveness in the areas of curriculum planning, delivery, reflection and evaluation.
► Improve student learning outcomes.
► Develop a consistent common/shared understanding of teaching and learning including curriculum content and delivery.
► Aims to further enhance teacher professional standards
► Develop a consistent and common teaching practice approach.

STUDENT LEARNING FRAMEWORK - Every Student-Every Lesson-Every Day
We introduced the Student Learning Framework to build the capacity of students to be more cognitively engaged, to be more resilient and to be more able to self-manage their learning and social behaviours.

Student focus groups Years 7-12 were formed and asked ‘What makes an effective and quality student?’
Student responses overall were mature, insightful and realistic. This feedback was collated and presented to ALL students and staff for feedback and consultation.

In 2014 ALL students and staff were given a copy of this Framework with the expectation that students have and refer to it Every Lesson-Every Day.

Jo Cucciara
Assistant Principal
College and House Leaders 2014

College Captains

Kynan Wilcox  Simran Ritchie  Ismail Sannang  Kayla Rizzo  Sheriden Cooper

College Vice Captains

Junior Captains

Hashim Zia  Stana Cvijic  Pratik Maharaj  Lisa Mao

House Captains and Vice Captains

Tyrone Poloie, Esmond Pokino, Edouard Bataillard, Jibat Futasa, Eric Trieu, Srdjan Schlegel, Jason Nguyen, Justin Bruzzone, Saicharan Kannan.
Adnan Barkad, Gemechu Kabato, Steven Hawes, Benjennelle Ngatokorima, Ian Porro, Neil Akash Chard, Nicole Welch, Michael Nguyen, John Wejesooriya, Sheriden Cooper, Jamie Nguyen.
Katherine Wilkinson, Fardina Al Ahmareen, Crystal Godfrey-Williams, Sharmaine Caruana, Ehgay Paw, Tehei Tito, Stephanie Bandi, Cindy Nguyen, Tianna Tarallo-Surensoy, Senili Lokupathirage, Parisa Faqiry, Julia Abdul-Khalek

Redback Theatre Group

Kayla Rizzo, Aylin Ergin, Pratik Maharaj, Amber Malone, Lachlan Grant, Monica Mery, Senili Lokupathirage, Jeraldine Joseph, Crystal Godfrey-Williams, Julia Abdul-Khalek, Mr Scott Caughey, Salma Abdulla, Stephanie Flores-Tapia, Bianca Hipolito
Scholarships

Noble Park Secondary College is again offering TEN 2 year Mathematics/Science scholarships.

These will be offered to TEN Year 7 students commencing in 2015 and carried over to 2016, each valued at $1200. The Scholarships will cover Council Approved Levies for 2015 and 2016, Leased Personal Netbook for 2015 and 2016 and a uniform voucher from our uniform supplier Beleza.

Scholarship examination to be held on Saturday 26 April 2014 and applications will close on Wednesday 16 April 2014.

To register please follow the link http://www.nobleparksc.vic.edu.au/en/ENROLMENTS1/Scholarships/
Discover
Noble Park Secondary College
Year 7 - 12 Single Campus VCE, VCAL & VET at Senior levels

Scholarships available
• Academic
• Performing Arts
• Music
• Sports

OPEN NIGHT
Wed 26th March
Tours 9.30am, 11.30am & 2.15pm
Information Session at 6.30pm

Respect • Excellence • Integrity • Teamwork • Responsibility

Enrolment Enquiries for all Year levels welcome
3 Callaghan Street, Noble Park 9546 9066
noble.park.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.nobleparksc.vic.edu.au
This year Noble Park Secondary College will return to its tradition of running a school Production. Work gets underway next week on a version of ‘The Wizard Of Oz’, with a short meeting for anyone who wishes to get involved. There is room for all the NPSC production, as we not only need actors, but also artists, builders, costumers and backstage, lighting and sound crew.

Any parents wishing to volunteer their sewing or building skills are encouraged to contact the school as well. The production is scheduled for the week of September 15-19.

Scott Caughey
Performing Arts Coordinator

It has been a busy year so far in the Redback Theatre Group. Last week the group held their annual open auditions. Several students auditioned and each did an outstanding job, showing unique characters, great performance skills, and tremendous courage.

Congratulations to the new probationary members of the Redback Theatre Group

- Mikayla from year 8
- Jitu from year 9
- Meti from year 9
- Dorothea from year 10
- Marina from year 11
- Semih from year 12

Next week the group will begin discussing our performance of The Wizard of Oz for the school production, and plans are underway for excursions to the Comedy Festival, and to see the musical “Wicked”.

By Senili Lokupathirage
(Publicist, Redback Theatre Group)

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The Right Size to Personalise

Noble Park Secondary College Swimming Carnival

**Tuesday 18 March 2014**

Students are required to return consent forms to the College by Tuesday 11 March. For those students not attending the Swimming Carnival there will be an alternative program operating at the school which will include an environmental clean up of the school grounds. **No teaching classes will be operating on the day of the Swimming Carnival.**

Students are to come to school and attend home-group as normal, they will then be escorted to the Noble Park Swim Centre in their year levels and **be dismissed at 2:30pm from the venue**. Students are encouraged to dress in their school house colours. **Please note no coloured hairspray, body paint or streamers are permitted as the colour can run and contaminate the pool water.**

Parents please observe the weather forecast and ensure students apply sunscreen, bring a hat, drink, lunch and clothing to cover up according to the weather predicted.

A fun day by all is anticipated with many games and fun events included in the program.

Ms McLean & Mrs Fitzgerald
Carnival Coordinators
Instrumental Music Program

We are excited to announce that students can learn a musical instrument for just $50 per semester here at school. Enrolment forms are available from the General Office and any music teacher. Your child can commence learning once payment (or a payment plan) has been arranged.

Instruments offered are Singing, Guitar, Piano, Drums, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, and Trumpet. Instrument hire, if required, is $15 per semester.

Bec Cullinan
Music Teacher

Welfare

Anti-Bullying Program

This term Junior school is participating in and being exposed to a variety of anti-bullying sessions during the month of March.

We begin with BRAINSTORM PRODUCTIONS presenting THE HURTING GAME for years 7, 8 & 9. The show is about peer pressure and being “true to yourself”.

This is an entertaining way to promote discussion about:

• friendship
• peer pressure
• bullying
• body image
• our cyber footprint
• the way we interact at school
• the way we interact on digital media

This show will assist students to recognise and resist peer pressure and help create a more positive school environment. For more information about this you are welcome to visit www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

This is followed up by group sessions directed by the Wellbeing Team for each year level. We then conclude with a session by Leanne Cooper our Youth Police Liaison Officer.

If you have any questions about this program please feel free to ring me at the school.

Lynda Chapman
Student Wellbeing Coordinator.

Stress Management and Relaxation

Students are invited to come along to de stress and unwind with some relaxation techniques recommended to release the stresses and tensions we experience today.

Held each Tuesday lunchtime in The Welfare Office. For more information speak to Lynda or Ann (School Nurse).

Free Tutors

Monash University provides FREE TUTORING

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

No homework support on

Wednesday 12th March Parent Teacher evening
Tuesday 18th March Swimming sports

3.30 – 4.30pm in the Year 7 and 8 Learning Centre

Fruit supplied

All students welcome
Rites of passage separation, transition & reintegration - an after school art and music project for EAL girls.

This was an art and music project for EAL girls. I have learned different art techniques in print making, stencilling, papercuts and photography to create images about my experiences. In this project I collaged my art works and painted onto a suitcase, and learned how to produce and record my own music which is installed in the suitcase.

Sadaf Haidari
Year 11

Thinking of becoming a Foster Carer?

Berry Street is looking for families like yours who can provide emergency, respite, short and long term care for vulnerable children. If you have room in your heart and home for a child then we want to speak to you.

Call today to discuss about becoming a foster carer on 1800 U FOSTER (1800 836 7831) or visit www.berrystreet.org.au

International Women’s Day

International Women’s Day March 8th 2014
INSPIRING CHANGE
Inspiring Change is the 2014 theme for this year’s International Women’s Day and the aim of this year’s theme is to encourage advocacy for women’s advancement everywhere in every way.

The Welfare Team would like to acknowledge International Women’s Day this Saturday. Globally, it will be celebrated in many different ways from lunches and parties to marches in the streets. This Saturday we ask that you think about the important contribution the women in your family and community have made to your life – your mothers, sisters, aunts, grandmothers, wives and neighbours.

Happy International Women’s Day to all women, girls and families at Noble Park Secondary College.
1. **MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS** -

- **‘AT MONASH’ SERIES** – More Seminar dates for your diary:
  - Arts (Humanities and Social Sciences), Tues 25 March (Clayton)
  - Design and Fine Art, Wed 26 Mar (Caulfield)
  - Teaching, Sport and Outdoor Recreation, Thurs 27 Mar (Peninsula)

An opportunity to check out courses; more dates to follow. See: [www.monash.edu/seminars](http://www.monash.edu/seminars)

- **MONASH OFFERS** – Monash has announced that offers of places made this year increased by 4.4% to 9749 on 2013 figures. This reflects the strong demand for Monash courses and underlines the university’s commitment to expanding higher education opportunities, said Vice-President Prof Edwina Cornish. The biggest increase has been in courses related to biomedical science, education, science, and business and economics.

- **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS** – Monash has a site for those wishing to help children transition from school to uni: [www.monash.edu/study/option/parents](http://www.monash.edu/study/option/parents). It also looks at the reasons for studying at university, choosing courses, costs, and so on.

- **PHYSIOTHERAPY AT MONASH** – As indicated in the last newsletter, the UMAT (domestic students) and the ISAT (international students) will no longer be required for students applying for the B. Physiotherapy for entry in 2015 and beyond. Applicants will still undertake an interview. Applicants will be ranked for interview eligibility based on the academic record (Year 12 equivalent studies or GPA) and demonstrated completion of prerequisite subjects. Applicants must be available for face-to-face interview at the designated time.

2. **OPEN DAYS FOR 2014** – Attending Open Days at universities and TAFE’s is a great way of gaining information about courses, facilities, location, and generally considering whether you would like to study there. They are mostly held in August, however their dates are included here so that you can get them in your diary and treat them as a priority. They generally run from 10am till 4pm. You need to allow perhaps a couple of hours per visit.

   **Sat 2 Aug** – Monash University (Berwick & Peninsula campuses)
   **Sun 3 Aug** – Deakin (Warrnambool), Monash University (Caulfield, Clayton & Parkville), Swinburne Uni & TAFE
   **Sun 10 Aug** – Australian Catholic Uni (ACU) (Melbourne), Deakin (Geelong), RMIT Uni & TAFE (Bundoora, Brunswick, City)
   **Sun 17 Aug** – La Trobe Uni (Bendigo), University of Melbourne
   **Sun 24 Aug** – Box Hill Institute, Deakin Uni (Melbourne), La Trobe (Melbourne), Victoria Uni, William Angliss Institute
   **Sun 31 Aug** – ACU (Ballarat), Federation Uni (Ballarat & Gippsland)

3. **VETERINARY SCIENCE & HOSPITAL OPEN DAY** – Step behind the scenes at the University of Melbourne’s Veterinary Hospital. This Open Day is for the wider community and prospective students to tour the facilities, discover the range of animals, attend lectures, and see interactive displays and demonstrations. Speak to veterinary staff, current students or members of special interest groups. **When**: 10am-3pm, Sun 16 March; **Where**: 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee; Info: [www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday](http://www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday)

4. **INTERESTED IN PHYSICS?** To coincide with International Women’s Day, the University of Melbourne’s School of Physics and the Laby Foundation are hosting a free public lecture. The speaker is Dr Alicia Oshlack who took a PhD in astrophysics and is head of the Murdoch Children’s research Institute. Hear about the growing field of bioinformatics and how studying physics led her there. **When**: 5.15pm, Thurs 6 March; **Where**: Hercus Theatre in the David Caro Building, cnr Tin Alley and Swanston St; **Enquiries/reg’n:**
Jacinta.den@unimelb.edu.au. Note: although the talk is to encourage young women to study physics, the lecture is open to all members of the public.

5. KEEPER FOR A DAY AND VET FOR A DAY – Thinking of a career involving animals? Then attend a Keeper or Vet day to find out the realities of these careers.

- **Warrube Open Range Zoo’s ‘Keeper for Day’ program** on 8, 10 and 14 April. Find out first hand from keepers, the skills and experience helpful in gaining a position as a zoo keeper. **Who:** 13-18yo; **Cost:** $103; **Book:** 9285 9406, www.zoo.org.au/warrube/whats-on/keeper-for-a-day

- **Healesville Sanctuary’s Vet for a Day program** on 9, 10, 16 & 17 April. Work alongside vets on real life cases at Healesville Sanctuary’s vet hospital. **Who:** 15-18yo; **Cost:** $125; **Book:** 9285 9406 www.zoo.org.au/healesville/whats-on/healesville-sanctuary-vet-for-a-day

- Healesville Sanctuary’s Keeper for a Day program on 8, 9, 15 & 16. Get close to precious and endangered animals; help the keepers, and learn about a very rewarding job. **Who:** 13-18yo; **Cost:** 4103; **Book:** 9285 9406.

6. DEAKIN UNIVERSITY NEWS -

- **CRIMINOLOGY AT DEAKIN (BURWOOD)** – Those thinking of studying criminology at university will be interested to know that Deakin University now offers this major at the Burwood campus as well as at Geelong. Criminologists examine how those accused of crimes are brought to justice, reasons for crime, and how crime rates can be reduced. Deakin now offers the following: Bachelor of Criminology along with several double degrees with B. Criminology: Information Technology, Law, Psychological Science

- **OPTOMETRY AT DEAKIN** – Deakin’s B. Vision Science/Master of Optometry will be offered from this year as a combined course. Students wishing to study optometry will be able to apply for the combined course via the usual VTAC process. It is offered at the Geelong campus, providing students with purpose-built facilities. By taking advantage of the trimester system, this course makes it possible for students to obtain a professional optometry qualification in just **three-and-a-half years**. See: www.deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/find-a-course/optometry.

- **CREATIVE ARTS AT DEAKIN** – The School of Communication and Creative Arts and Education has outstanding **creative and performing arts facilities**, including animation labs, editing suites, sound studio, film screening rooms, wardrobe and costume department, green room and performance studios. Students may work collaboratively on major projects, developing project management, communication and collaboration skills required by creative artists and creative technologies industries. Students have access to the Deakin Broadcast Centre, a full high definition TV studio. Photography students work in both digital and chemical formats, with access to high quality dark room facilities. Students also learn in the Motion Lab, Australia’s largest and most sophisticated optical motion capture facility. Info: www.deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/find-a-course/creative-arts.

- **DEAKIN STUDENTS SAY** – The new YouTube videos may help you satisfy your curiosity about what it is really like to study at Deakin. Get a student perspective on courses, overseas study, and work placement opportunities by visiting www.youtube.com/user/deakinuniversity.
Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

It’s never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

“Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – When students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx
Year 9 Outdoor Education - Snorkelling @ Flinders

3 Callaghan Street, Noble Park 3174 Phone: 9546 9066 Fax: 9562 4757
Website: www.nobleparksc.vic.edu.au Email: noble.park.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au