I am pleased to announce that we have had a settled and smooth start to all classes in Term 1. Within this newsletter, our sub-school heads have included the names of all our Home Group Teachers so that Parents/Guardians become familiar with their son or daughters teachers.

We continue to have a whole College focus upon improving literacy and our staff will embed the following seven literacy strategies within their lessons, as a consistent framework at our College for improved academic results. Our staff have worked with Professor John Munro on the following strategies to include in their lesson preparations.

1. Getting Student Knowledge (What do students already know about the topic to be introduced)
2. Vocabulary (saying, reading and spelling words accurately)
3. Read Aloud (to improve understanding with tone and punctuation)
4. Paraphrasing/Visualising (saying sentences in their own words)
5. Saying questions about text (developing a question about the main idea to deepen further understanding)
6. Summarising (develop main ideas for each paragraph/section)
7. Reviewing (explain what has been learnt and write it in sentences)

I bring to your attention that there is an opportunity for persons over 18 years, to an evening Adult English as a second language (EAL) classes. This is a wonderful opportunity being presented to our College and I hope that we will have members from our community take up the offer. Please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate personnel for any of your enquiries at our College.

If you wish to discuss any matters that you feel will impact upon your child’s education at our College, I welcome an appointment with you.

Pam Dyson
Principal
**JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS**

The Junior School team would like to extend a very warm welcome to our Year 7 students, their families and all other students newly enrolled with us this year. We have had a very smooth start to the year, with Year 7 and 8 students settling into our new Flexible Learning Centre.

Our Year 7 & 9 Coordinator, Pat Bollard and Year 8 Coordinator, Jacinta Todd warmly welcomed the students and outlined the College’s expectations. We are very pleased to see all students in the new revised uniform. We understand that some components of the uniform are yet to be available from Beleza Uniform Store. Could we encourage you to please order the required item with the store, to ensure that students receive their uniform items as soon as they are made available.

This week Year 7 students will receive their Immunisation Consent cards. Could these cards please be completed and returned to the students’ Home group Teacher no later than Friday, 15th February. Immunisations will be conducted on the following dates:

- **Dose 1:** Tuesday, 12th March
- **Dose 2:** Thursday, 25th May
- **Dose 3:** Wednesday, 16th October

The Junior School Team are very much looking forward to meeting all Year 7, 8 and 9 families at our ‘MEET & GREET’ BBQ to be held on Tuesday, 19th February. See you there.

The following Junior School Homegroup teachers are as follows:
- **7A** Tegan Williamson
- **7B** Sandra Nicolacopoulos
- **8A** Stephen Seddon
- **8B** Elizabeth Roshiah
- **8C** Con Nikanis
- **8D** Dina Kenny
- **9A** Jennifer Gale
- **9B** Mary Poulios
- **9C** Russell Turnbull

Helen Karagounis
Junior School Leader

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**YEAR 7 2013 CAMP**

A reminder to parents and Year 7 students that the Year 7 camp to Oasis Youth Camp at Mount Evelyn will take place between Wednesday March 6th & Friday March 8th. Parents who need to finalise payments are asked to contact the General Office as soon as possible.

Any questions or concerns about the camp may be addressed to Pat Bollard the Year 7 Coordinator.

**MEET & GREET FOR PARENTS OF YEARS 7, 8 & 9 Tuesday 19th February**

A reminder that there will be a Sausage Sizzle for parents of students in Years 7, 8 and new students in year 9. A letter has been sent home with a reply slip attached. Students are required return this to your Homegroup Teacher by Monday 18th February.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL Thursday 14th March 2013**

Students should have been allocated a house either red, green, blue or gold if you have not been allocated a house please see Ms McLean or Mrs Papas.

Meetings will be held soon to enable students to put their name down for each of the swimming events and fun activities. Don't miss out!

Ms McLean/Mrs Papas
Carnival Coordinator

**EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE E.M.A**

A reminder that the closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013. If you are a holder of a Health Care Card or Concession Card, and your child has not turned 16 years old contact the College for and EMA application.

**PLEASE NOTE ERROR IN THE STUDENT DIARY**

Please note that there is an error in the end of Term 2 date in the school diary. The last day of school for Term 2 is on 28th June 2013.
SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS
Welcome one and all to the Noble Park Secondary College Senior School News, where we hope to provide you with dates, information and relevant information for all involved.

The year has begun with almost every student showing consistent punctuality, neat appearance and displaying a hunger to learn and work hard in all classes. Our continual focus is for all students to attend home group which starts at 8:50am.

The following staff are involved in ensuring that all details, information and relevant paperwork are attended to at homegroup.

Year 10 Year Level Coordinator – Mrs Margot HULETT
Homegroup 10A – Mr Damian MATELJAN
Homegroup 10B – Miss Hiroe NAKAMOTO
Homegroup 10C – Mr Yil HILMI
Homegroup 10D – Mrs Anne COLLINS

Year 11 Year Level Coordinator – Mr Scott CAUGHEY
Homegroup 11A – Mr Trevor BARRY
Homegroup 11B – Mr Shannon KEANE
Homegroup 11C – Mr Jim NIKOLAKOPOULOS
Homegroup 11D – Mrs Mary SOUMPLIS
Homegroup 11E – Mr Stephen HILL

Year 12 Year Level Coordinator – Ms Maria THEOHARIS
Homegroup 12A – Mr Jamie SWEATMAN
Homegroup 12B – Miss Kathy PAPAS
Homegroup 12C – Miss Tracey NELSON
Homegroup 12D – Miss Barbara SMITH
Homegroup 12E – Mr Sean DICKSON

Important points to remember with more information to come soon.

ALL YEAR LEVELS
Homework club runs on a Wednesday and soon to be Tuesday 3:30pm to 4:30pm in the Conference room.

YEAR 12 – Students will be asked to check sizes of Jumpers before ordering them. There will be a Yr 12 assembly to organise and confirm places on the Yr 12 Camp very soon. Each year 12 will undergo a short interview with Ms Sanfilippo later in term 1, to ascertain career intentions and set appropriate goals.

YEAR 11 – Students will be asked to nominate for College Vice Captains. There is an application process, which will require an interview. Please see Mr. Caughey ASAP if interested.

Year 11’s are encouraged to go to University and TAFE Open days later in the year, as well as The Age VCE and Careers Expo in May.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE
The dates for work experience are the 17th June - 28th June. Students must find a work experience place in term 1. Immunisation date is Thurs 23rd May for all year 10 students - Boostrix

Mr Jamie SWEATMAN
Head of Senior School

VET AT NOBLE PARK SECONDARY COLLEGE
There are many students at the College undertaking VET, as part of their VCE, VCAL or as an accelerated subject in year 10. Some students are going outside of the school to complete courses such as hairdressing, automotive, building or hospitality, to name only a few. Other students are undertaking a VET course at NPSC (Business, Digital Media or Sport and Recreation Rugby).

Parents and students are reminded that attendance at VET is very important. VET runs in a long block and therefore absences can interfere with the student’s progress in the subject. Medical certificates need to be provided to Ms Sanfilippo in the case of any absences. As part of our school policy we will be contacting VET students and parents when several absences have occurred (2 or more). VET attendance letters will also be sent home regularly when a student’s VET attendance is below 80%.

VCE and Year 10 students and parents are also reminded of early leaver (Thursday Afternoon) and late arrival (Tuesday Morning) procedures. Students need to bring back their permission forms in order to arrive late and leave early. This does not apply to VCAL.

Ms Sanfilippo
VET Coordinator
LIBRARY NEWS

In 2013, the Library is providing a free subscription to *The Age Newspaper* in digital format.
Access will be via our iPads and students are welcome to borrow these from our circulation desk.

EMBRACE EDUCATION

Embrace Education is based out of Monash University.

They provide us here at Noble Park Secondary College with FREE TUTORS. This program is voluntary & runs in conference room on Wednesdays 3.30 – 4.30pm

Commences Wednesday 13th February.
Hope to see you there. All students welcome

Lynda Chapman

Parent Cuppas

1st Thursday of every month
(9am until 10.30am in the staff room)

First Parent cuppa
Thursday 7th March 2013

Everyone welcome, hope to see you here

These morning cuppas’ are to give the school community the opportunity to come together on a regular basis. Everyone Welcome.

CONTACTS:
School: Lynda Chapman 9546 9066
Parent: Nikki Karagiannis 0415 183765

Personal Goods brought to school at owner’s risk

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools, and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Students are discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

Pam Dyson
Principal

Parents Building Solutions
Transition to Adolescence

WOULD YOU LIKE TO

♦ strengthen your relationship with your teen?
♦ better understand why teens behave the way they do?
♦ find ways to maintain boundaries yet encourage independence?
♦ know the challenges teens face in Secondary School

Come along, have a chat, share experiences and solutions.

Who: A program for parents, grand parents, step parents or carers

When: 5 weeks program
9.00am-11.00am

Wednesdays – 20th, 27th, February, and 6th, 13th, 20th, March 2013

Where: Noble Park Secondary College

Cost: Free and Refreshments provided

Facilitator: Jasbir Singh Suropada from Parentzone

Booking: For further information or to book, contact Lynda Chapman on 0395469066 / 0439615748 or Jasbir on 0431203177

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Pam Dyson
Principal
MATHS NEWS—FEBRUARY

The Maths team has a new Leading Teacher for Maths – Helen Wearing-Smith. Helen has been teaching for over 25 years and is currently teaching Yr 8 & Yr 9 Maths, and Yr 11 & Yr12 Maths Methods. If you have a query or a concern relating to Maths (eg text book, calculator, homework), please don’t hesitate to contact Helen or your student’s class teacher during school hours. Helen can also be contacted via email: wearing-smith.helen.h@edumail.vic.gov.au.

So far the Year 8’s have been working in the Learning Centre for Maths with a combination of mixed ability groupings (generally in Homegroups) and topic-related groupings. We have watched a number of video’s on Fractals (repeated patterns often found in nature) creating a Sierpinski Triangle from an equilateral triangle in class, and a canopy fractal task as homework.

![Sierpinski triangle](image1)

Sierpinski triangle

![Canopy Fractal](image2)

Canopy Fractal

Some have also used their netbooks to access a Maths website called Hooda Maths where they accessed a racing game on addition of integers. Four students were shown what to do by the teacher, then when the groups rotated, the students who had completed the task, became the experts and taught the next group what to do. Great teamwork guys!

The Year 9’s are almost finished their first topic (Indices) and have completed a task on bacteria growth (doubling every 20mins) where the calculations involved powers of 2 and scientific notation (eg 54 000 = 5.4 x 10⁴) which is very helpful when dealing with large numbers. They used this index modelling to suggest reasons why a pimple can “appear overnight”.

The Yr 11 and Yr 12 Methods classes have already completed their first assessment task based on the work they completed through Step Up. Their assessment has been based on satisfactorily completing Outcome 1 (being able to complete standard problems) and Outcome 2 (applying their knowledge to more difficult problems or applications). Throughout the year they will learn to use their own CAS calculator efficiently and accurately – this is what Outcome 3 is based upon. It is very important that all students completing Methods have their own CAS calculator. The school recommends using the Ti Nspire Colour CAS but the black CAS and grey/green CAS versions are also used in the classroom. If your student has a Casio Classpad, the functions are slightly different but Helen Wearing-Smith will be able to show them how to use it.

The Yr 11 Maths Methods class also looked at a video from You-tube that sings the quadratic formula - great for learning the rule off by heart!

Online Recommendations for February:

Hooda Maths (you can also get free or $0.99 APPs for Ipad)

“Liking” Science Alert and “Mathematical Association of Victoria” on Facebook

You-tube – searches for “Vi-Hart” and “Quadratic Formula Songs”

Anything you would like to share/suggest? Please drop Helen WS an email.
School Council Elections – Information for Parents

School Council Elections 2013

What is a School Council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the School Council?
For most school councils, there are two main categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category – more than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DEECD employee category – members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The Principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school elections. Please Note: If positions remain unfilled, it may be a decision of Council after the election process, to co-opt person/s to a vacant position.

Why is Parent Membership so important?
Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.
Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.
In view of this, you might seriously consider
Standing for election as a member of the school council
Encouraging another person to stand for election

Do I need special experience to be on School Council?
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?
The principal will issue a Notice of Elections and call for Nominees following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March, unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.
If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.
DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council at that school.
Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the Principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election.
Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.
Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do. Consider standing for elections to council this year. Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the Principal for further information.

Notice of Election and Call for Nominations for Noble Park Secondary College.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
<th>Number of Vacancies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From March 2013 until February 2015</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee</td>
<td>From March 2013 until February 2015</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the General Office at the school.

Pam Dyson
Principal
SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2013

Nomination Form for Parent Member Category

Please return General Office with attention to Lesley Dunshea (Principal’s Personal Assistant) by 4pm Thursday 6th March, 2013.

I wish to nominate ……………………………………………………………………………for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the Noble Park Secondary College School Council for a two year duration.

Name…………………………………………………………………………………………………………
………………………………………………....
Residential address
………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………....
Home Telephone ………………….......Mobile Number
………………………………………..Business.........................
Email…………………………………………………………………………………………………………
…………………………………………....
I am the parent/guardian of……………………………………………………………………………………..who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is the parent/guardian of ………………………………………………………………………………………who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

The person I have nominated is an employee of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Yes / No (please circle)

Signature of Nominator………………………………………………………………………..Date………………………………

Candidate to Complete

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a Parent member of the above named School Council.

I hereby declare that I am not an undischarged bankrupt and that I am not currently serving a sentence for an indictable offence.

Signature of Candidate…………………………………………………………………………
Date………………………………

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.