Principal’s Report

Noble Park Secondary College celebrates the announcement of being a finalist in the Victorian Vocational Education and Training (VET) Excellence Awards.

We are proud to announce to our community that our College has been named as one of the three finalists within Victoria, for the VET Excellence Awards. We have been successful in being named a finalist due to our outstanding results. These include:

- An increase of students undertaking a VET program from 4.5% in 2008 to 30% in 2013.
- We have introduced students from other Colleges completing a VET subject at our own College.
- We are currently completing 6 programs in 2013 – Certificates II and III Community Sport and Recreation, Certificates II and III Business and Certificates II and III Digital Media as compared to no internal VETS in 2009.
- Year 10 to Year 12 student retention rates have improved by 20% in the past 3 years as students have been offered a variety of pathways.
- In 2012, 92% of students leaving at the end of Year 12 went on to complete further training and education. (This has steadily risen from 2008-71%, 2010 – 83% and 2011-85%)

The State average was 80%!

- From the 92% of students who went on to further study, 99% of them were offered tertiary placements.
- In 2012, our College was successful in gaining pathways for 100% of our Year 12 students.

The above data has been possible for a variety of reasons, but the introduction of VET subjects has greatly contributed towards the above successes.

Congratulations to all our staff and our students on attaining such high recognition for the VET awards. We are most proud of our achievements.

Senior Information Evening
The Senior Information Evening was held on Tuesday 23rd July, starting the process of informing students of their important choices for their studies in 2014. Thank you to all staff involved in the organisation of this evening. In the next few weeks there will be many events planned to ensure that both students and parents are well informed of possible choices for our student studies in 2014 and beyond.

Pam Dyson

### Dates to Remember

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<td>Subject Selection (Years 8 &amp; 9)</td>
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<td>Monday 19 August</td>
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**Teaching and Learning Framework**

Our staff have been undergoing professional development completing documentation to further improve outcomes for our students. Last year, our College completed an extended diagnostic review and this formed the basis of our 2013-2016 Strategic Plan. (This plan is outlined on our website). One of the major recommendations for our plan was to ensure greater consistency in the way that our staff teach. During last year, staff have been planning a consistent framework that all staff will implement during their classroom lessons. In this document, we have also sought student feedback, as well as investigate latest research to further improve results for our students. At July School Council meeting, this Teaching and Learning Framework documentation was presented.

It included the following overview:

**Beginning of Lesson**
1. Build Rapport with Students  
2. Establish Class Routine and Climate for Learning  
3. Review Homework  
4. Reiterate Previous Learning  
5. (i) Provide Clear Learning Outcomes, Purpose of the Lesson and Tasks  
   (ii) Provide Assessment brief including Rubric (or equivalent)

**During the Lesson**
6. Make Learning Relevant and Transferable to Real-Life Situations  
7. Determine Prior Knowledge and Skills  
8. High Expectations and Opportunities for ALL Students to Learn  
9. Track Student Progress and Provide Meaningful Feedback  
10. Celebrating Success  

**End of Lesson**
11. Reflect on Learning  
12. Set Homework

We will also be planning to complete a 'Student Teaching and Learning Framework', setting out expectations from our students. This will also be presented to Council and within our newsletter.

Pam Dyson

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**Year 9 Health Day**

**Thursday 22nd August**

All year 9 students will be rotated through different sessions throughout the day.

**Party safe.**

Prevention program, harm minimisation program designed around safe choices, decision making in relation to safe partying.

**Anti-Smoking.**

Activities and strategies to address smoking and discuss the impact of smoking and health related issues.

**SECASA.**


**Zumba & Gym sessions.**

Girls will participate in a Zumba session and boys a Gym session promoting physical activity as a part of everyday health.

Lynda Chapman. S.W.C.  
Theresa Sprekos. Health Nurse.

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**Japan Tour**

We are still recruiting students who want to take part in the Japan visit in 2014. A number of students have expressed their interest in participating in this fantastic opportunity. We still have places available, so if you are interested, please contact Mr. Russell Turnbull or inform the office.

There will be a meeting for all interested parents and students later in Term 3.

If you have any queries, please contact Mr. Turnbull or Ms. Nakamoto at the College.
Junior School News

Night of the Notables & Exploring the world
Presentation night

Term 2, saw our Year 7 and 8 students undertake two separate, yet equally intensive and exciting projects. The year 7 students focused on the ‘Night of the Notables’ and the Year 8’s completed an ‘Exploring the World’ Project. Students immersed themselves in an in-depth study of one Notable or one Country, researching widely and comprehensively with a view to presenting the information during the Presentation Night, held on Wednesday, 19th June 2013. This unit of work focused on independent learning, wide and deep research, thoughtful displays, personal commitment and performance and the higher level thinking skills. Each student was guided by their Social Competencies – connectionz teacher, along with the support of their English, Humanities and Art teachers. Parents also played an integral part in the process and it is evident that the students certainly benefitted from both the teacher and parental support with this project.

Parents and friends came along and enjoyed the students amazing, and often entertaining multi-media presentations and various food delicacies brought along by families. Well done to all our students for their positive work ethic and commitment to the connectionz Program. Many teachers and students dedicated their time to the success of the evening, and undoubtedly all in attendance were impressed with the calibre of presentations and creative costume designs.

Congratulations to everyone involved. Well Done.
Helen Karagounis

REMINDER
Term 3 Netbook payments are now due for those families paying by instalments.

Sports Report

Intermediate soccer
On a cold winter’s day 13 intermediate soccer boys braced the cold to play soccer. It was a close competition, with Noble Park winning a couple of their games. Fun day had by all the boys.

Senior netball
This team was comprised of all year 12 girls who decided to get a team together. They had never played as a team before and by the end of the day were playing like superstars. No injuries and lots of laughs made it a successful day.

Senior basketball
As the senior boys got ready to play in their competition down at Dandenong stadium they were faced with some extremely tall players. They all played really well as a team and never gave up in all of their games. Great sportsmanship from all the Noble Park players.

The Right Size to Personalise

The Premier’s Reading Challenge ends on 12 September.
Finish reading your books and add them to your reading record and please return any Consent Forms (we have forms in the Library if required)
Senior School News

Subject Selection

Thanks to the parents and students that attended the Senior School information night on Tuesday 23rd June. It was a great chance to speak to staff relating to subjects and important information for the subject selections.

Congratulations to Srdjan Schlegel, Sharmaine Caruana and Helle Chalkiadakis, they were outstanding in their responses and delivery of answers to questions on Yr 11 subjects, acceleration and VET subjects.

Thank you to the students and parents who committed to the Subject Selection day on Tuesday 30th July. Close to 80% attended and had the opportunity to discuss their subjects and options for 2014. Yr 11 students will have the opportunity to discuss their Yr 12 options between the 5th and 16th of August. Yr 8 into 9 and 9 into 10 will be conducted on Tuesday 13th August.

Year 12 Pyjama Day
Thursday August 15th All Year 12
Students will be required to attend school wearing their favourite PJ’s

Year 12 Valedictory Fundraiser

Year TwELVES Christmas in August
When: Tuesday August 20th
Where: Clifford Grills Hall
Time: 1.20pm
Cost: $15.00

Christmas lunch includes: ¼ chicken, potatoes, peas, pumpkin, gravy, bread rolls, salad and soft drinks.

Parents of Year 12 Students welcome.

Please pay at the school office by Thursday August 15th
VCAL Community Project

With health concerns on the rise due to lack of exercise, poor diets and nutritional choices, the Yr 12 VCAL students have decided to build some fitness stations between the VCAL garden and Outdoor Ed shed. These fitness stations include chin up bars, sit up benches, step up blocks, dips benches and other stations. The students are seeking support with some material required to help construct these stations. Timber, steel, mulch and other items are required to put these together.

If you would like to offer any assistance, please call Jamie Sweatman.
(Fitness stations at Middle Park Beach)

Legally Blonde Excursion

12 of the school's extracurricular drama students were lucky enough last term to be offered cheap tickets to see the hit Broadway Musical Legally Blonde, showing at the Princess Theatre in the city. The Redback Theatre Group members travelled in by school bus, and after a quick dinner, settled into our plush seats for a great show.

Starring some big names like Lucy Durack, Cameron Daddo, Rob Mills, and Erika Heynatz, the show had us laughing from start to finish - and we capped it off by getting photos and autographs from the cast on the “pink carpet” outside the stage door at the end of the night! It was a fun night, and a fantastic chance to see some high quality theatre. Many thanks to Mr Barry, and ex-student volunteers Katrina Wood and Deborah Thompson for helping supervise the excursion.

Year 12 VTAC Process

Students have been given information about when University and TAFE Applications start. A letter is also being sent home to parents explaining the process and timelines.

TAFE and University Open days

A list of open days is available from the plastic pocket outside of the careers room.

Graduation Day and Valedictory Dinner

Tuesday 22 October Valedictory Dinner to be held at Freccia Accura Club, Keysborough (more information on previous page).
FREE study for overweight young people looking for help

The Murdoch Childrens Research Institute at The Royal Children’s Hospital is conducting a randomised controlled trial of an online weight management program designed for overweight adolescents aged 12 to 17 years. We want to find a fun and interactive way to help adolescents learn about healthy food choices and physical activity. Around 30% of all 12 to 17 year old Australians are overweight and spaces in clinical services are limited. Staying Fit is an interactive online program designed to help adolescents learn about healthy lifestyle choices. We would like to find out if it is more effective than the information that is already available to Australian adolescents. We are looking for 550 overweight adolescents aged 12 - 17 to help us test two ways of providing health information. Those who take part in the study will be randomly assigned to either the Staying Fit group or the Usual Care group.

- Both groups will receive information for young people about healthy food choices, physical activity, stress and coping with eating disorders, and a list of useful websites to visit. The Staying Fit group will also spend about an hour each week (for 12 weeks) working through a fun, interactive, online session and they will be provided with a pedometer and a walking program.
- If we find that the Staying Fit program is more helpful, then at the end of the study the Usual Care group will also get access to the Staying Fit program.

All participants are asked to complete questionnaires and have their height, weight, blood pressure and waist circumference measured at baseline, 3, 6 and 12 months follow-ups. Parents are also invited to complete questionnaires, height and weight measurements. These measurements can be taken at the Royal Children’s hospital or during home visits (not at schools) and all individual information is confidential.

Recruitment has commenced and we are looking for overweight young people aged between 12 and 17. If you would like to know more, contact the Staying Fit Project Coordinator, Louise Canterford on (03) 9345 6954 or email: stayingfit@mcri.edu.au web: www.rch.org.au/cah/stayingfit

Laryngectomy Association
Schools Program
Thursday 29th August
period 4 & 5

The Laryngectomy association will be coming to our school to speak about the risks of smoking and share the effect it has had on their lives.
A person with a Laryngectomy has had their larynx (voice boxes) removed and needs to speak through a stoma.
Sessions will be run for both junior and senior students on this date.
If you have any questions please contact:
Lynda Chapman (SWC) or
Theresa Sprekos (Health Nurse) at the College.

Small groups

Small groups involving, confidence, anger management, social skills, self-esteem have commenced in the junior school.
If you feel your child would benefit from these groups, please contact Lynda Chapman

South East Youth Connections

South East Youth Connection is an external agency that will be here at the school working with some of our students.
Youth Connections program is support young people that are still in education but most at risk of disengaging and also support young people that have disengaged from education, training or employment. The aim is to assist young people to outline their goals and what their needs are:
Some examples of goals may be:
• improve at school,
• find alternative education,
• improve on their behaviour,
• build self-esteem/confidence,
• debrief with someone,
• set achievable realistic goals.
This service is offered individually or in groups, inside the school or externally if preferred.

The service is free & voluntary.

If you are interested in finding out more, please ring Lynda Chapman at the school.