School Council
In our last newsletter we called for nominations for the Parent member category for School Council. I am pleased to report that we had more nominations than positions for a 2 year term of office and have gone through a voting process. Voting closed at 3.30pm on Friday 13th March. Please note that there are 2 categories:

- 3 Parent representatives for a two year term and
- 1 Parent representative for a one year term.

On Tuesday 17th March, successful candidates will be posted on our web site.

Update of $5 million Funding Commitment
On Wednesday 11th March School Council President Craig Hancock, Kerrie Dawson, Helen Karagounis and I attended a regional briefing for schools who have been promised financial commitment in the last election. Noble Park Secondary College has been promised $5 million funding to upgrade our facilities. Naturally we have all been impatiently awaiting when we will see this commitment become a concrete reality, so that we can begin to plan, prepare and start upgrading our facilities.

The briefing explained a detailed process that the College will be undertaking regarding planning to upgrade our facilities. Our facilities should enhance our educational philosophy of what we are trying to achieve and we need to examine what we do well and where we need to improve, therefore our plan will need to reflect this.

Planning the upgrading of facilities will be an opportunity for us to:

- Clarify and reinforce the direction of the school.
- Build on the school improvement work already happening in the school.
- Create learning spaces to match the needs of current/future students and teachers.
- Support, coach, train staff and students to grow and learn in these spaces effectively.
- Strengthen the quality and expectations of teaching and learning practices across the whole school.

Staff will start planning in term 2, and we will also seek input and feedback from students, parents and school council representatives. The announcement of whether we will obtain the first lot of funding will be made in May, and I will update our community as soon as I am informed.

Parent Teacher Night – 11th March
On Wednesday 11th March, we conducted our first Parent/Teacher night. We had a reasonable attendance but we would have liked a higher percentage of Parents/Guardians attend, to speak with our teachers regarding your son or daughter’s progress. I cannot stress enough the importance of communication between home and school in relation to maximising educational opportunities and achievement for your son and daughter. We ask that Parents/Guardians attend our future Parent/Teacher sessions as a matter of importance. Please note that the second Parent/Teacher interview session for Year 12 students will be held on Monday 16th March from 2.30 to 4.30pm.

Open Day/night – Wednesday 25th March
As per the flyer within this newsletter, we will be holding an Open Night on Wednesday 25th March with an information session directed at prospective students (mainly Year 7, 2016) at 6-30pm. This will be held in the Year 7/8 Learning Centre. All welcome!

Congratulations to Sifan Badada – Year 8
Sifan recently won the Under 14 Boys 800 metres at the South Eastern Regional Athletics competition. Sifan was showcased in the Leader newspaper and on the front page of the Greater Dandenong Monthly Magazine. A wonderful achievement!
Congratulations to Huy Vu – Year 7

Huy was successful at the Dandenong and District Swimming Carnival in 6 first places for 200m freestyle, 200m individual medley, 50m butterfly, 50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke and 50m backstroke. Huy was also awarded a medal for best swimmer in Under 15 age group and Huy is only 12 years. A fabulous effort!

During the last 2 weeks of this term, I will be representing our College as one of eight schools to showcase Victorian Government schools in China. Jo Cucchiara will be Acting Principal during my absence.

With only two weeks remaining of term one, I encourage all students to stay focused on completing all set tasks for all their subjects and make sure that you take advantage of the many opportunities outside the classroom that our College has to offer. To name a few: Debating, Redback Theatre, Interschool Sports, Instrumental music and subject competitions.

Netbook Instalments

For those families paying by instalments - Term 2 Netbook payments are due by Friday 24th April, 2015. If you are having difficulties with this arrangement please speak to either Sharyn, Debbie or Kerrie in the front office.

Scholarship Exam Closing Date

Online registrations for the Edutest Academic Scholarship examination for Year 7 Entry 2016 will close on Friday 17 April 2015. To register please visit our website: http://www.nobleparksc.vic.edu.au or for more information contact Jo Cucchiara, Assistant Principal on 9546 9066

Immunisations @ Noble Park Secondary College

IMMUNISATION

In 2015 three major changes to the vaccine program will impact on parents of secondary school students:

1. The Greater City of Dandenong Council’s immunisation service may contact you about the secondary school vaccine program. Schools have been authorised to provide parent contact details to local councils for this purpose.

2. In 2015 only, the vaccine that protects against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough will be offered to all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. From 2016, this vaccine will be offered to Year 7 students only. This will provide earlier protection from these diseases.

3. The time-limited human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine program for Year 9 boys was completed in December 2014. HPV vaccine will continue to be offered to all students (both male and female) in Year 7 from 2015.

Look out for the vaccine consent form coming home from school with your child. You need to read, complete and return the form/s regardless of whether your child is being immunised at school.

Key Immunisation Dates 2015
Open Night Wednesday 25th March 2015

Information Session at 6.30pm
Daytime Tours commencing at 9.30am and 2.15pm

Apply now for our 2016 Scholarships
Academic • Performing Arts • Music • Sport

www.nobleparksc.vic.edu.au
3 Callaghan Street, Noble Park, Victoria 3174
Phone: (03) 9546 9066
College Matters

2015 Greater Dandenong Division Swimming Carnival

2015 Greater Dandenong Division Swimming Carnival held on 12th March. While a cool overcast day, three young swimmers from Noble Park Secondary College joined in the Dandenong District Swimming Carnival held at Noble Park Swim Centre.

Chantel Greaves of 8A competed in the Under 15 girls’ 50 meter freestyle & backstroke. Kelly Kerford of 8A competed in the Under 14 girls’ 50 meters freestyle, while Huy Vu of 7A competed in the Under 12-15 Boys events listed below:-

- 200 meter Boys freestyle
- 50 meter boys breast-stroke
- 50 meter boys butterfly
- 50 meter boys freestyle
- 50 meter boys backstroke, & the
- 200 meter boys’ medley (where the swimmer performs one lap of backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly and freestyle.

Congratulations to Chantel & Kelly who competed well in their events and while they did not achieve a place competed with enthusiasm and displayed excellent sportsmanship throughout the day.

Huy Vu of year 7 competed in six events went on to win all six first place ribbons and was awarded the Championship medal for the under 15 Boys Champion of 2015 Greater Dandenong Division Swimming Carnival. An outstanding achievement for a young man of only 12 years of age.

I would also like to remark on the excellent sportsmanship qualities displayed on the day. This young man congratulated his competitors after each race and every race. It was a pleasure too to have Huy’s parents in attendance. While they cheered and supporting their son onto victory in each event, they also took photographs of our other two competitors and actively supported and cheered on the girls in their races too. A proud day of sporting competition for the whole of Noble Park Secondary College.

Winning Baseball Team:

Mitchell Wilcox, Jamie Gobbett, Alani Maka, Waheed Waheed, Albi Aliu, Dean Harris
Resul Ozgur, Ismail Sannang, Waisea Baleitavuki, Priyan Umaharan

Senior sport

Noble Park Secondary College Senior Boys Baseball team played Keysborough College on Monday 23rd March. Noble Park began their dominance early and carried it through the rest of the game. Excellent pitching complemented by consistent hitting gave Noble Park an impressive win 16-0 after three innings. The team now moves onto Southern Zone finals on April 28th. Good luck boys and hopefully we may steal 2nd base to get through to the state finals.....

Jamie Sweatman
**District Athletic Championships**

We would like to congratulate Year 8 Student Sifan Badada on his recent efforts competing at the District Athletics Championships held at Ross Reserve in February. Sifan finished the event with 2 first places in the 800m and the Triple Jump, placed 2nd in the Javelin, and 4th in the 400m.

Sifan has now qualified to compete in all 4 events at the Victorian State Championships later this month.

We would like to wish Sifan the best of luck for his upcoming state level competitions.

*Jennelle Little*
MIPS Coordinator

**Interschool Debating**

The DAV is a non-profit association which exists to promote debating. It runs large competitions for adults and for schools across Victoria.

This year Noble Park Secondary College has one team taking part in the competition. There are five rounds. Debates take place at Haileybury College starting at 8pm.

Our D Grade (Years 8 and 9) team consists of: Christina Kok, Lisa Mao, Charlene Trinidad, Nathan Chhor, Nirmal Chand, Kevin Kok and Divnoor Kaur.

Round 1 was Tuesday, March 10th against Kilbreda College and the topic was ‘That we should ban photo editing in Magazines.’ Noble Park won the debate and Christina was awarded best speaker. Congratulations go to all debaters for their teamwork and their excellent debating skills.

*Barbara Smith*
Debating Coordinator

**Year 12 Biology – GTAC Excursion**

Recently the Year 12 Biology class participated in an excursion to the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC) which is situated next to the University of Melbourne. This program was led by expert scientists and the practical experience involved young scientists as mentors to guide the students. In the program students explored the structure and function of enzymes using specialist equipment such as spectrophotometers and bioinformatics software. In the experimental component students discovered the optimal conditions for the enzyme amylase. Following this students used computer software to investigate the detailed molecular structure of amylase and to explore applications in medicine such as the design of drugs to block the active and binding sites of this enzyme.

*Steve Seddon*
Leading Teacher – eLearning/Pedagogy
Cricket

Congratulations to the Intermediate Boys Cricket Team who competed against local schools on Friday 6th March. All the boys played very well in their games and represented the College in an exemplary manner. The teamwork and camaraderie amongst our students outweighed the results on the day.

Melvin Manoj, Sai Kannan, Anwar Ibrahim, Arranyo Khan, Rajab Ali, Dillan Francis, Murtaza Karimi

Homework Club

Monash University provides FREE TUTORING

Tuesday & Wednesday
3.30 – 4.30pm in the FLC.

All students welcome!

Edrolo

Edrolo - The ultimate VCE resource

We are excited to announce that we are including Edrolo into both our teaching & learning activities for VCE Units in the 2015 academic year. Each student is provided with a unique account with access to interactive video lessons and exam-style questions designed to help students master and revise course content.

Our teachers will be referring to the resource throughout the year and utilising the practice exams on Edrolo to ensure our students are on-track for their SACS and End-of-year exams.

Please see the Edrolo website (http://www.edrolo.com.au) if you require further information or if you would like to view some of their sample lessons.

We do believe that this tool will be of great benefit to your child’s VCE Studies.
We’re on the way to becoming eSmart

Earlier we advised that our school had registered with eSmart – a comprehensive approach for managing cybersafety and dealing with bullying and cyberbullying in school communities.

We’re pleased to let you know that we have completed the first phase of our eSmart journey.

We have planned many activities in line with the eSmart Schools Framework, and are now progressing with implementation.

Expect to hear a lot more in the coming months about our efforts to promote the smart, safe and responsible use of digital technology.

We hope you will also take part in some of the opportunities to learn more about being eSmart.

For more information visit www.esmart.org.au

Have you ever thought how good it would be to be able to learn what it’s like to live in another country?

Learn a new language?
Experience a different culture?

You can have this opportunity in 2016 - With Rotary Youth Exchange -
If you are in year 9, 10 or 11 in 2015 you can apply now

For further information contact
District 9810 Rotary Youth Exchange
Phone; Stuart McDonald, 0408 388 489 or
Email; stuhoo2000@yahoo.com.au

www.rotaryyouthexchange.org.au
Noble Park Secondary College has had a sister school in Japan for more than 20 years. Over that time, Noble Park has sent several dozen of our students to visit and study in Japan. Every two years our sister school, Shinminato Senior High School send students here. This year Shinminato will be sending 8 students and 2 teachers for a one week homestay visit. The visitors will arrive on Sunday July 19th and will go back to Japan on the 25th. The school is seeking families who are interested in hosting a Japanese student during this visit.

Visits are a lot fun and a great cultural experience for all the family. You do not need to speak Japanese, but you will need to have a spare bed.

If you are interested in hosting a student, please write your name at the bottom of the form and return it to Mr Turnbull as soon as possible.

Please place a tick in the box and return

I would like to host a Japanese student  □

I would like to have more information about hosting a Japanese student  □

Parent Name ________________________________________________

Student Name _______________________________ Form _______

Telephone ___________________ Mobile ________________________

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
TOP TEN QUESTIONS ASKED BY STUDENTS ABOUT HOMESTAY

1. How many visitors are coming?
   • 10 (8 students and 2 teachers).

2. Where do the visitors stay?
   • With students’ families.

3. Does it cost anything to host a visitor?
   • Not really. Although you will have an extra mouth to feed for one week and you will probably find yourself going for a few drives. We usually find that our students, when they visit Japan, spend very little during their homestay. The host families usually take care of any costs.

4. Does my daughter or son have to study Japanese for us to host a visitor?
   • No. Anybody can host.

5. Can we host if we don’t speak Japanese?
   • Yes, of course you can.

6. Can we host if we don’t speak English very well?
   • Yes, of course. Most of the visitors probably won’t speak English very well either. But they have learned English for at least four years and they will all come with electronic translators.

7. What do we need to have in order to host a visitor?
   • You don’t need to have a spare bedroom, but you will need to have a spare bed.

8. Will our school visit Japan?
   • Yes, Noble Park SC will visit Japan in 2016.

9. Can my daughter or son go to Japan if we host?
   • Usually host students have visited Japan the next year and then stay with the family of the student that they hosted.

10. Why should I host?
    • Because it is the most fun you can have. Not only do you get to meet someone from another country and establish a new friendship, but you will also get to learn about another culture and language.