Welcome to the first Newsletter for 2015!

Before students and staff returned to the new school year, I contacted the Minister for Education, James Merlino’s office, to have an update of our promise of $5 million commitment to improve our facilities at Noble Park Secondary College and I am anxiously awaiting a response. As soon as I have this response I will inform all members of our community.

Last week we had our first whole school assembly and I was very proud of our new student leaders, including Captains, SRC President and SRC Vice President, Kayla, Zohair, Bianca and Drew. They confidently spoke of how they felt privileged to be in such leadership positions, leading our student body. We also had representatives from our Redback Theatre, passionately promoting the Drama group at our College.

New Staff
We welcome two new instrumental music teachers to our College; Renee Freakley and Nick Priest, who will be training students in voice/piano and guitar respectively. Included within this newsletter is further information for students to participate in the instrumental music program at our College.

Mondays
- Anthony Priest
- Melissa Knowles

Thursdays
- Renee Freakley
- Nick Priest

Please collect forms and further information from the year level co-ordinators.

Timetable
Due to a large increase in Year 10 and 11 enrolments (especially at Year 10 level) we have had to add extra classes into the timetable and some students have had to have their timetables amended from 2014. We apologise for this delay in finalising these timetables and hopefully all will be settled as soon as possible.

Year 12, 2014
We are also very pleased and proud to announce that our Year 12 students from 2014 have been successful in gaining University places in Round 1. Congratulations to our students who have been successful in gaining placements for the following courses:

- Bachelor of Music; Monash Uni, Bachelor of Communication (Public Relations); Deakin Uni, Bachelor of Civil Engineering; Victoria Uni, Bachelor of Health Science; LaTrobe Uni, Bachelor of Engineering; Monash Uni, Bachelor of Arts/Commerce; Deakin Uni, Bachelor of Science; Melbourne Uni, Bachelor of Criminology/IT Security; Deakin Uni, Bachelor of Bio Science; Monash Uni, Bachelor of Psychological Science: Deakin Uni, Bachelor of Applied Science; RMIT, Bachelor of Food & Nutrition Science: Monash Uni, Bachelor of Arts/Science (Osteopathy) RMIT, Bachelor of Science and Society; La Trobe Uni. Reward for the hard work in 2014...

We hope that this will provide inspiration to our 2015 Year 12 students!

Diaries
A reminder that the school diaries are now available for purchase for $10.00 from the General Office.

House Captains and Vice Captains 2015

Last week, House Leaders were finalised and I wish to congratulate the following students for their elected positions of House and Vice Captains:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RED</th>
<th>WHITE</th>
<th>BLACK</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Boys</td>
<td>C - Ismail Sannang</td>
<td>C - Alan Toafa</td>
<td>C - Gemechu Kabato</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>VC - Drew Goltsos</td>
<td>VC - Ali Hussaina</td>
<td>VC - Nazib Barkhad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Girls</td>
<td>C - Yolande Stovers</td>
<td>C - Cindy Nguyen</td>
<td>C - Sonia Sula</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VC - Janelle Labarba</td>
<td>VC - Ina Khan</td>
<td>VC - Rahma Abdillahi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Boys</td>
<td>C - Arannyo Tajwar</td>
<td>C - John Lalatoo</td>
<td>C - Bryce Berends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VC - Jastin Wane</td>
<td>VC - Aidward Dar</td>
<td>VC - Sean Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VC - Helnay Say</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Girls</td>
<td>C - Charlene Trinidad</td>
<td>C - Kelly Kerford</td>
<td>C - Rubushini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VC - Alysha Gregory</td>
<td>VC - Lisa Mao</td>
<td>Satchiananthamoorthy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Visa - Dina Ahmaren</td>
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<td>Visa - Christna Koh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pam Dyson  Principal
Swimming Carnival
On Monday 9th February our College ran a very successful House Swimming Sports Carnival held at Noble Park Swimming Centre. Thank you to Ms Fitzgerald who co-ordinated the event along with the PE staff. It was a fantastic day for students and staff alike with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Congratulations to ‘Black’ house who were the victors on this occasion.

Year 7 Camp
On Monday our 2015 Year 7 students set off on their transition camp at Oasis Camp at Monbulk. Ms Theoharis and Mr Caughey were the lucky staff members who accompanied our group and we are looking forward to the stories and photos from their experience. Many thanks to Katrina Wood (an ex-student) who is now a teacher who joined the staff. Thank you to the peer support leaders who visited the camp on Tuesday.

School Levies
Last year as subjects/levies were placed in the student information packs, it was brought to the attention of parents and/or guardians, that some subjects that require fees had the final due date as 6th February, 2015. As per DEECD policy, our School Council has itemised the three areas for which parents/guardians may be reasonably requested to make payment. These include subjects which require extra instructional support material, resources and administration in addition to the standard curriculum program. Students made elective choices in September, 2014, with School Council approved fees listed on their choices. As per DEECD policy, our College has given adequate notification to families of fees required. (DEECD policy state at least 6 weeks notification). These fees are now overdue. Of course for those students who have had their timetables changed, this will make a difference, however, I remind parents/guardians that enrolment in these ‘paying subjects’ should now be finalised. If you have not yet paid these fees and you have not contacted our Business Manager to organise payment plans, I ask you to do so URGENTLY, as unfortunately your son/daughter will not be able to continue within these identified subjects without payment. Please ensure that you contact the College on 9546 9066 as soon as possible so that your child will not be disappointed...

School Chaplain
Last year our College was successful in gaining funding to appoint a School Chaplain for 2 days per week. The successful candidate is James McHugh and he will be starting at our College in March. We look forward to welcoming him as part of our Welfare Team.

School Photos
Information was sent home in the first week re School Photos. This will be happening on Monday 16th February. If your son or daughter had not received information from their home group teacher, due to absence from school, please collect these details from our General Office.

School Council Elections
We are looking forward to nominations from our parent community for School Council. We have 3 vacancies for a 2 year period and 1 vacancy for a replacement 1 year position. Please see important information included within this newsletter.

Pam Dyson
Principal

College Matters

Duty of Care
Please be informed that staff are on yard duty from 8.15am and after school until 3.30 pm. Unless students are supervised by staff (eg: Homework Club, Sports Teams, Theatre Groups) they should leave the school grounds by 3-30pm as they are not under the supervision of the school. It has been reported to me that a few students are ‘staying behind’ in classrooms at the end of the day. This is not permitted as no student is allowed inside classrooms without a staff member present.

Personal Goods brought to school at own 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.

Change of Details
Have you changed your address, medical or phone numbers recently?
If so, it is vital that you provide updated details to the College.
Please collect a CHANGE OF DETAILS form from Reception.

Parentzone Sessions
The fun Parentzone sessions about Adolescence have started. Join us next Tuesday 17th February at 9am for this interactive, informative session with Jasbir. Free morning tea provided. (See page 6 for more information).

Save the Date
Noble Park Secondary College Multicultural Day will be held on Thursday 7 May 2015. More information to come soon!
Noble Park
Secondary College
Year 7 - 12 Single Campus VCE, VCAL & VET at Senior levels

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
The Right Size to Personalise

The Right Size to Personalise

College Matters

The School Nurse and Your Family @ NPSC

Research shows that healthy students learn better and to assist with this school nurses:

- Educate the school community about topical issues in health-IMMUNISATION is this month’s topic!
- Work with teachers to deliver health education sessions on topics such as body image, safe partying, general health including nutrition and sleep, sexual health, mental health and body image.
- Provide individual students with information, guidance and support on a range of health or wellbeing issues.
- Develop connections between students and their families and services in the wider community.

The nurse works as part of the team at Noble Park Secondary College on Tuesday and Thursday each week of term. Please contact me through the front office if I can help you or answer any questions you may have about your child/children at the school.

Alma Ries.

Immunisations @ Noble Park Secondary College

IMMUNISATION

Parents want the best for their children and make decisions about important issues like education and health that affect their whole lives. Immunisation is one such issue. I encourage parents to read the information that will be sent home about this year’s free school immunisation program return the signed consent cards. Please contact me if you have any questions or worries and please discuss immunisation with your children if they are in years 7, 8, 9 & 10.

“Both males and females can get HPV. It’s very common – 4 out of 5 people have HPV at some point in their lives”[1].

All students in year 7 will be offered the first of 3 HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) injections. HPV immunisation (x3 over 6 months) helps prevent cervical, rectal, penis and throat cancers and most genital warts. These are most effective when given to young people before they become sexually active.

All students in years 7, 8, 9 & 10 this year will be offered Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough (Pertussis) immunisation – in one injection, and Chicken Pox (Varicella). All these diseases can and do cause severe illness and hospitalisation and even death. Chicken Pox and Whooping Cough are very serious illnesses for pregnant women and their babies.

Immunising your child protects not only them, but any pregnant women or people with immune problems they may come in contact with.


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. Contact the school via telephone on 9546 9066 by 28 February 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Greater City of Dandenong Council.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Immunisation Dates 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18/3/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/5/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/9/2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maths News

Maths has started with quite a few different activities. Year 7’s and 8’s now have a Noble Maths Portal from which they can source tasks to build their skills. Year 9’s have conducted an outdoor task to find the length of a straight stick using Pythagoras’ theorem. Year 7 - 10 have access to HOTmaths if they have paid their $20 to the front office (you can pay $5 per term if it helps). HOTmaths is like Mathletics but much better and easier to use. The Year 8 & 9 students plus some of the Year 10 students used it last year with great success - we even had students on the world leader board for the topic Co-ordinates (Bryce became No1 with 10 seconds, knocking Zoann off the top spot with 12 seconds). VCE students have completed an exam practice to identify areas they need to focus on and they now have access to Edrolo (access will be removed shortly if they have not paid for the subscription).

Helen Wearing-Smith
Leading Teacher 2015 - Maths, Year 8/9 Student Management

Redback Theatre

The Redback Theatre Group is an extra curricular group that allows students to discover and improve their acting, directing and writing skills through workshops and collaborative activities. The group caters for a range of levels, from students wanting to explore the world of theatre and showcase their talents, to those wanting to boost their confidence and conquer their fears of performing on stage.

Members of the Redback Theatre Group spend one whole lunch time a week to attend meetings and workshop. There are also frequent after-hours excursions throughout the year. All major decisions and roles within the group are taken by the students themselves, under the guidance of the Drama teacher, Mr Caughey, and this year’s newly elected President, Julia Abdul-Khalek (Year10).

Entry into the group is via invitation, or through the open auditions held at the beginning of each year to fill empty places. Places are limited. This year’s auditions are fast approaching. Interested students should attend a compulsory meeting in the drama room at lunchtime on Thursday February 19 to collect a script. Auditions will begin the following Wednesday (February 25).

Scott Caughey
Head of Performing Arts
If there is a bushfire, flood, severe storm or other major emergency near you, the emergency services may choose to warn you by text to your mobile or a voice message to your home phone.

Emergency Alert is the national telephone warning system. It uses the address where your phone is registered and the actual location of your mobile to reach you:

- when your home or school is near an emergency
- when you are travelling with your mobile near an emergency.

When the emergency services use the telephone warning system:

- a home phone within the warning area may receive a recorded voice message that begins with “Emergency, Emergency”, and/or
- a mobile phone that is switched on and in an area of mobile coverage may receive a text message.

The service is free and you do not need to register.

The warning message will tell you:

- which emergency service sent the message: eg CFA
- about the emergency and where it is
- what you should do to stay safe
- where you can get more information.

All telephone warnings come from the official number: +61 444 444 444

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**Example Text Alert**

From: +61 444 444 444

**EMERGENCY WARNING FROM CFA**

Fire in Pohlners Road area. Visitors to Grampians National Park should leave now. Check local radio or visit emergency.vic.gov.au

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**Student Welfare News**

Year 7 -8 & 9 will see a play performed by Brainstorm Productions called Verbal Combat on Tuesday the 10th of March. For more information you are welcome to look on their website. www.brainstormproductions.edu.au

Year 7 & 8 will then have a 2 hour session run by the Student Welfare Coordinator and School Nurse.

Year 7 & 8 will also have follow up lessons through their social competencies classes for the remainder of the term.

All year levels will have an hour session conducted by Victoria Police re Cyber Safety and the legalities around it.

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**Free Tutors**

Monash University provides **FREE TUTORING**

Tuesdays & Wednesdays

3.30 – 4.30pm in the Flexible Learning Centre.

Fruit supplied.

All students welcome

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**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. (Also open to parents whose teens are from other secondary schools)

When:
4 week program- Time: 9.00am-11.00am
All Tuesdays-10th, 17th, 24th February and 3rd March 2015

Where:
Noble Park Secondary College

Cost:
Free and Morning Tea provided

Facilitator:
Jasbir Singh Suroopada from Parentzone (Anglicare)

Booking:
For further information or to book, contact Lynda Chapman on 0395469066 / 043915748 or Jasbir on 0431203177

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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
School Council Elections – Information for Parents

School Council Elections 2015

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) employers 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.

An optional Community Member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. DEECD employees are not eligible to be a Community Member.

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.

Remember

- 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>Parent Member</td>
<td>From March 2015 until February 2017</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Replacement</td>
<td>From March 2015 until February 2016</td>
<td>1</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 2015**

**Nomination Form for Parent Member Category**

Please return General Office with attention to Lesley Dunshea (Principal’s Personal Assistant) by 4pm Wednesday 4th March, 2015.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SCHOOL COUNCIL TIMETABLE</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 18th February, 2015</td>
<td>Notice of election and nominations for Noble Park. Secondary College. <strong>2015 Council nominations open.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 4th March, 2015</td>
<td><strong>Nominations Close</strong> Date by which the list of candidates and nominations will be displayed on our web site <a href="http://www.nobleparksc@vic.edu.au">www.nobleparksc@vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6th March, 2015</td>
<td>Ballots papers prepared and distributed (if nominations exceed vacancies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th March, 2015</td>
<td>Close of Ballot at 3-30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13th March, 2015</td>
<td>Vote count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16th March, 2015</td>
<td>Declaration of vote of successful candidates to be display on our Web site <a href="http://www.nobleparksc@vic.edu.au">www.nobleparksc@vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th March, 2015</td>
<td>Meeting of new Council Members 6pm in Conference Room at the College.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th March, 2015</td>
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</tbody>
</table>