From the Principal

Update of $5 million Funding Commitment
Just a reminder as per our last newsletter that an announcement will be made by the State Government in the May budget as to when we will obtain our first lot of funding for our promised $5 million commitment for our College. As soon as I have been briefed, I will inform members of our community.

2014 Annual Report
On Wednesday 22nd April, the 2014 Annual Report was presented to our School Council. Any parent wanting a copy of this information is welcome to contact me on 9546 9066. Please see outstanding Year 9 NAPLAN Growth Data below showing great improvement of Year 9 students achieving in the top 3 bands in reading, writing and numeracy.

Please also see Destination Results from our 2013 Year 12 students. We are proud to announce for the third year in a row we have monitored 100% of students to have a meaningful pathway. 96% of students went on to further education and training.

School Captains represent College at Noble Park RSL Service
I was proud to accompany our School Captains, Kayla Rizzo and Zohair Rezai to the Noble Park RSL service on Wednesday 22nd April. Both Kayla and Zohair were chosen to present the plaque to John Meehan, President of Noble Park RSL to commemorate participation of local schools at the significant 100th ANZAC Anniversary Service.

College proudly participates in ANZAC Commemorative 100th Year Service.
On Thursday 23rd April, we were very pleased and proud to participate in a SRC student run assembly to commemorate the 100th ANZAC Gallipoli service. Mr Michael North, from the Noble Park RSL, was our guest speaker and our students listened respectfully and carefully of his experiences as a Vietnam soldier and the importance of the occasion. Mr Rex Carter from Noble Park Rotary Club was also a distinguished guest in the audience. We were privileged to have Allan Collard from the Greater City of Dandenong to play the ode, and an ex-student Rivka Bortnoski dressed in light horse brigade uniform. Our students were magnificent with performances and their attentiveness. Thank you to Mr Barry and Mr Caughey for assisting students, and for the overall organisation of the service. Congratulations to all concerned and special thanks are extended to our distinguished guests.

Contd...
From the Principal

Athletics Sports
On Tuesday 28th April, our College held our Annual House Athletics Carnival at Ross Reserve in Noble Park. Thank you to Ms Lisa Fitzgerald for co-ordinating this very successful whole school event. We had very positive participation from our students with some exceptional performances throughout the day. Red House were the victors of the competition, but it was wonderful to have such a healthy competition...Please see photos included within this newsletter.

NAPLAN Tests
Please be informed that our Year 7 and Year 9 students will be participating in NAPLAN testing during the week starting Monday 11th May. Ms Sandra Nicolacopoulos (English) and Ms Helen Wearing-Smith (Maths) will be co-ordinating this process. NAPLAN brochures/information will be sent home for Parent information with Year 7 and 9 students within this newsletter.

Why choose a Public Secondary School?
At this time of the year, families are making important decisions about choosing a secondary school for their child. There’s a common view that if you send your child to a private school, your child will get better results. But the facts show that this is wrong.

A recent review of almost 30 academic studies revealed public schools achieve similar student outcomes to Catholic and independent schools across a range of education indicators. (Cobbold, 2015)
The review showed there were no significant differences between the results of students from public, Catholic and independent schools in national and international tests and in university completion rates.
And in the first year of university, students from public schools outperform other students – they achieve higher grades in their first year of university than students from Catholic and independent schools.

You can read more about the review’s findings here: http://www.saveourschools.com.au/public-education/studies-show-public-schools-achieve-similar-results-to-private-schools
As a leader in the public school system I believe it’s important that families know about this information because it can help inform their decision-making.

Public schools are just as good as private schools in the area that matters most – developing your child’s potential. The review is one of many pieces of educational research showing that students from the same social background do as well in public schools as they do in Catholic or independent schools.

There are other good reasons to consider enrolling your child in a public school. They include the following:

- Public schools are great value for money compared with private schools, which charge families up to $30,000 each year in tuition fees per child. Tuition at public schools is free, with families paying for books and some essential items.
- Children in public schools learn to get on with a wide mixture of students from different backgrounds. These advanced social skills – cooperation, empathy, problem solving – are increasingly prized in the modern workplace. They equip students for success in life and in work.
- Public schools are neighbourhood schools. Enrolling your child in a school within walking or riding distance to home makes it easier for you to know who your child’s friends are, to make friends with other local parents and to forge closer links with your school and your community.

High quality teaching is one of the biggest factors that influence student learning. That’s why public schools are intensifying their efforts to enhance the skills of their teachers through mentoring, peer and student feedback and other forms of professional development.

Public schools are the backbone of our nation’s education system. They express our Australian egalitarian values. They provide opportunities for all children to succeed, no matter where they live. They give all children a fair chance to reach their potential and lead a fulfilling life.

College News

Multicultural Day
Multicultural Day will take place on Thursday 7th May. Local Primary Schools will visit us on that day to enjoy the performances. Students involved in the performance will be required to be back at the College at 6.30pm, ready to commence our evening show at 7pm. All students are invited to come to school dressed in either their multicultural clothes (gold coin donation) or full school uniform. All gold coin donations will be given to State School Relief.

Motivational Speaker
On May 25th Seth Franco (ex Harlem Globetrotter) will visit our College to give a positive and encouraging presentation to our Year 7, 8 & 9’s. (more information within this newsletter)

Host families Needed
We need a few more families willing to host a Japanese student for one week. Please see Mr Turnbull for more information or see the information sheets attached to the back of this newsletter.
Noble Park Secondary College's Work Experience program will run during the week of Monday 11th May - Friday 15th May. Our Year 10's embark and will immerse themselves into the workforce for a week. It is a time where students gain many different skills to assist them to improve their understanding of the workforce and become familiar with employer expectations. It also allows them to explore possible career options, increase their self-awareness, maturity, independence and confidence. Work Experience can also motivate them to continue further study into a profession they are hoping to pursue.

Parents are a very important part of the process as it provides the opportunity for you to discuss with your child what type of work he or she are thinking about. You have the opportunity to contribute in a positive way in being involved in your child’s secondary education beginning with a conversation about possible career choices.

Many of our students are excited about Work Experience but can feel unsure about the process. As a school we strongly support students in helping them prepare to present themselves to the workforce and for their future pathway; but we can only achieve the best possible outcome if we work with parents together to achieve their success.

If you have any concerns or questions about the Work Experience program please call me on 9546 9066.

Sandra Vaina
Careers Counsellor
Athletics Day 2015

The Right Size to Personalise

House Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>1112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tuesday 28th April saw the Senior Boys Baseball team head off to Cheltenham for the Southern Metro Zone Finals. With a lot of confidence from our District win, we turned up to find quite a few baseballers from different age groups representing other schools.

Our first game against Hallam SC was our Grand Final, as we saw them as the team to beat to make it through to State Finals. Mitchell Wilcox pitched well for the first two innings but some fielding errors and rain making conditions difficult cost us 8 runs. The luck escaped us in the batting department as we had several hits, but all went to fielders who ran us out very quickly. Even Priyan struck the ball straight over the head of the pitcher. You know it is not your day when the pitcher throws his hand up in the air, turns around in self defence and catches the ball cleanly in his glove, without even looking. Unfortunately Hallam defeated us 16-1 in our first game, and won their second pool game against Rosebud SC 11-1, going straight through to the final, where they defeated Mckinnon SC 14-1.

We played Rosebud in our second match, which was to have no bearing on the overall result. We had a lot of fun, changing the field around and having our main pitcher Mitchell move to catcher, and Waisea move from catcher to 3rd base. Zohair and Priyan pitched against Rosebud, and did a fine job considering they are cricketers and have never pitched a baseball before. A few people watching even asked where Priyan played, as his style and number of strike pitches grew with each minute. They were shocked to know he didn’t play Baseball. Rosebud had several players from Year 9 to 12 filling a solid team, however we did get two runs and unfortunately left a few runners stranded on bases when the third player was out in each innings. The team had a lot of fun, and learnt valuable lessons going into next year, where with Mitchell in Year 12 and a lot of practice (and some luck) we could push toward a State final. Congratulations to all 12 players from the District and Zone team.

Mr Jamie Sweatman
Leading Teacher
On Friday 24th April 15 students and 4 staff members joined thousands of others at Camp Gallipoli to commemorate the Anzac Centenary. They were there to experience a special night of remembrance, honour our fallen Anzacs and witness the arrival of the Anzac flame. They then camped out (in the pouring rain!) and attended a unique dawn service.

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
The Right Size to Personalise

Homework Club

Monash University provides **FREE TUTORING**

**Tuesday & Wednesday**

3.30 – 4.30pm in the FLC.

All students welcome!

---

**General Achievement Test - GAT**

There are 6 Weeks until the Year 12 and Year 11’s completing unit 3/4 subjects will be required to sit the General Achievement Test.

In two weeks (Friday 15th May), those students will sit a practice GAT. These will be marked by an external provider so that each student will have independent feedback to allow them the best preparation for the actual test on the 10th of June.

More information on the GAT:

**What is the General Achievement Test?**

The General Achievement Test is a test of general knowledge and skills in:

- written communication
- mathematics, science and technology
- humanities, the arts and social sciences.

These areas are very broad.

Because it is a general test, no special study is required for the GAT. Students will already have done preparation for the GAT in past study of subjects like English, Mathematics, Science and History, where they have built up general knowledge and skills in writing, numeracy and reasoning. These are the knowledge and skills that will be tested.

Students can get a good idea of the questions by looking at previous GAT papers. Students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these questions and note that all the information needed to work out the right answer is provided.

**Why do students have to do the GAT?**

The GAT is an essential part of the VCE assessment procedures.

All students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3 and 4 sequences must sit the GAT.

Although GAT results do not count directly towards a student’s VCE results, they play an important role in checking that school-based assessments and examinations have been accurately assessed, and in calculating Derived Examination Scores. So it is important to sit the GAT and do as well as possible on all parts of it.

The GAT is used in these ways because achievement on the GAT is a good predictor of achievement on other assessments. If students have done well on the GAT, then their achievements are likely to be high on their school-based assessments and examinations.

Clearly, some GAT questions relate more closely to achievement in particular studies. The VCAA takes this into account when it calculates students’ expected achievements in each study for each school. For example, GAT results in mathematics, science and technology play only a minor part in calculating students’ expected achievements in humanities studies.

**How is the GAT used?**

The VCAA will use students’ GAT scores as a basis for:

- contributing to statistical moderation of school-based assessment results
- checking the accuracy of examination marking
- calculating the Derived Examination Scores.


Mr Jamie Sweatman
Leading Teacher

---

**Monash University**

**provides** **FREE TUTORING**

**Tuesday & Wednesday**

3.30 – 4.30pm in the FLC.

**All students welcome!**
The Right Size to Personalise

5 MINUTE RELAXATIONS
Come and try some different types of relaxation.
Relaxation can:
• make you feel calmer
• help you feel full of energy
• focus better in class

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
With Theresa Sprekos - your school nurse
1.30-1.40pm in the Library

BITE BACK
Reduce stress.
Improve focus.
Expand potential.
Win prizes!

BITE BACK is all about amplifying the good stuff in life. They've just launched their 6 Week Challenge to BITE BACK which helps you discover what you're really passionate about and then provides the tools to make the most out of that passion.
Signup to get one email each week to further expand what's possible.
To sweeten the deal they've got 5 prize packs up for grabs for people who complete the challenge including instant cameras, speakers, tablets, vouchers, and heaps more. See www.biteback.org.au/competition to signup for the challenge!
If you have any further questions please speak with Lynda or Theresa.

SETH FRANCO
In 2003 when Seth auditioned for the Harlem Globetrotters, he didn't think twice about bucking the trend as the first Caucasian team member since 1942. Now Seth travels the world inspiring others to "Bounce SMAP" from Harlem and "LIVE BIG!". Recently, Seth has shared the stage with the likes of LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Dwayne Wade, and other NBA All Stars! He has appeared on ESPN, BET, E!, MNNBC, Comedy Central, and more. Seth has also worked with Universal Studios, the NBA, and The US Department of Education.

"Great things happen to people who don't give up!" - Seth Franco
Growing up in New York, Seth Franco dreamed of a professional basketball career. Seth's hard work and determination paid off. In 2003 when he joined the Harlem Globetrotters. The path to achieving his dream involved overcoming multiple hurdles. One of his biggest challenges occurred during college, when Seth experienced a critical leg injury. Facing surgery and rehab, he was told that his basketball dreams were over. Regardless, Seth continued to believe in his dream and perseverance. While recovering from his injury, Seth was unable to play basketball on his feet, so he worked out, doing all of his training and practicing with his hands. The basketball tricks he learned during his injury would later become the key to fulfilling his dream. Once back on his feet, Seth wondered how he could resume pursuing his basketball career aspirations. He continued working out, perfecting his eye-hand coordination and developing amazing tricks! Everywhere Seth played, he stood out for his basketball skills. A local streetball team, the Court Jesters, offered him a new start playing on their team and participating in the streets of Harlem. After seeing Seth's unique abilities, his coach, Andy Eckman, recommended him for a Universal Studios basketball movie auditions. Director Adam Lee was riveted by Seth's unique integration of tricks while playing competitive basketball. After winning the lead role in the movie, Seth was offered a chance to go on a week-long training camp by former NBA All-Star Kenny Smith. Making the team, the Harlem Globetrotters later selected Seth as spokesmen for their nationwide character education program.

Motivational Speaker presenting to Year's 7, 8 & 9 May 25th, 2015

This school is on its way to becoming eSmart®
Smart. Safe. Responsible.
Celebrations & Performances
Thursday
May 7th 2015
7pm - 8.30pm
Gold Coin Donation
Money raised donated to State School relief
9546 9066

Noble Park Secondary College
3 Callaghan St
Noble Park

MULTICULTURAL DAY

Kindly supported by the Victorian Multi Cultural Commission

Please return this slip to the front office by Tuesday 5th May, 2015 to allow for seat allocation

Student Name: ___________________________ Home Group: ___________________________

NUMBER OF SEATS REQUIRED ___________________________

GOLD COIN DONATION AT THE DOOR
Outdoor Education - Surf Camp & Rock Climbing

Mr Sean Dickson
Domain Head PE/Health
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 _______________________
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.
We would like to thank Barry Plant, Noble Park for their continuous support of our College.

Record Breaking!

Call our offices today for a FREE market appraisal.

71 SALES IN MARCH

ALL SALES MADE BY BARRY PLANT NOBLE PARK & KEYSBOROUGH OFFICES