

# Newsletter

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

MS HELENE HIOTIS, PRINCIPAL

12th Edition

17 December 2018

*The right to learn.  
The right to be treated with respect.  
The right to be safe.*

*"Being the best you can be"*



Last week our Year 12 students received their results. As I have stated on many occasions, VCE and the attainment of an ATAR is not the only part of the education provided at our school. With students aspiring, indeed committed, to attend university, the ATAR, and therefore the exams, are very important and symbolise the conclusion of secondary schooling. However, we should always maintain perspective when considering the idea of success at school. That four digit number called an ATAR has a shelf life of about five weeks; it ceases to be important when first round university offers are made.

An even more important symbol of the school's success, and a celebration of both individuals and the community, is Presentation Night. Tonight we will gather at Kingston Town Hall to participate in what is the most important event on the school calendar.

The awards to be presented on the night reflect the diversity of talent in the school and celebrate some amazing achievements, including performances from our talented students.

IMPORTANT DATES ON PAGE 11



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As I walk through the corridors and classrooms of Bentleigh, I listen to the students chatter about the school and the incredible love and respect they have for their teachers and school. I have learnt in the past few years, since my appointment as Principal, that the school community – the “Bentleigh Spirit” – is the very heart of this school. The “Bentleigh Spirit” shapes each and every one of our students. The students probably do not realise this, but no matter their age or cultural background, they learn to be part of the “Bentleigh Spirit” during the very first week at school.

At Bentleigh, I have continued to observe our students choosing not to give up when faced with adversity. When the props fail on stage or the athlete sprains an ankle or a significant event occurs that impacts them profoundly, they stand up and learn new life lessons that push them to develop themselves in a way they never thought possible. Participating in the House Program, in Music and/or Sport and in their learning can transform their lives and reveal their leadership abilities. True leadership is often inspired through adversity. I am profoundly proud of all our students and staff.

Stage 2 of the upgrade continues and Nick Staikos, our local MP visited the school. Nick was delighted to see the progress and by the time we return to school in 2019 the new courts will emerge from the ground.



# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

*MR MARC KOENIG, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL*

It is my pleasure to introduce the 2019 Leadership and Sub School Teams:

## LEADERSHIP

### **Assistant Principal - Curriculum, Feedback & Practice**

Mrs Schy Prewett

### **Assistant Principal - Engagement & Connectedness**

Mr Marc Koenig

### **Assistant Principal - Wellbeing & Pathways**

Ms Leanne Winfield

### **Head of Teaching and Learning**

Ms Carrie Bloomfield

### **Head of Data and Assessment**

Mr Julian Sadleir

### **Head of Instructional Practice**

Mr Joshua Purcell

### **Head of da Vinci Centre**

Dr Michael Lyrstis

### **Head of Wellbeing**

Mr Wayne Davis

## 2019 SUB SCHOOL TEAMS

### **Head of Wellbeing, Engagement and Leadership (Senior Years 10-12)**

Mr Arun Karunatne

### **Head of Year 12**

Ms Phoebe Lindsay

### **Head of Year 11**

Mrs Jenny Vlahandreas

### **Head of Year 10**

Mr Hayden McLennan

### **Head of Wellbeing, Engagement and Connectedness (Middle Years 8 & 9)**

Mrs Courtney Fraraccio

### **Head of Year 9**

Ms Lana Goldstone

### **Head of Year 8**

Mr George Tissera

### **Head of Wellbeing, Engagement and Transition (Year 7)**

Ms Josie Phillips

### **Head of Year 7**

Ms Olivia Sherman

## Early Commencement

I have been impressed with the positivity shown by students in taking on the challenges of a new year level. All senior students receive holiday homework. It is imperative that students complete this work and are up to date and ready to start next year.

## Building Works

It has been exciting for our students and staff to begin classes in the new da Vinci Centre. There has been an extra buzz during school tours going through the building. It was particularly evident on Orientation Day as parents were taken for a walk. Staff will also welcome the return of the carpark for next year.

Stage 2 building works is well and truly underway. It will be interesting to see the change as we return from the Christmas break.

Two additional portables for Southern Autistic are also landing in January following the removal of the old J Block rooms.

# LANGUAGE WEEK

*Ms Ayako Lyons*

From Monday 26 to Friday 30 November 2018, the first week of Early Commencement, Bentleigh Secondary College had Language Week. We had exciting events every day and this was a great stimulation for learning languages in a fresh academic year.

Within the program, as an annual event since the last year, we had a Guinness Challenge of 'Most marshmallows caught with chopsticks in one minute (team of two)'. The current record is thirty five marshmallows caught in the USA in 2015. At Bentleigh, over fifty pairs challenged the record and our best score this year was five. We will continue to challenge the Guinness Record every year!

We invited exciting Japanese drum and flute performers on November 28 for the Language Week incursion this year. The fifty minute performance and workshop was not long enough. All participating students were so thrilled and 'vibrated' by the most energetic performance with the Japanese traditional instruments.

We also had Japanese curry lunches, Kendama challenge, Kahoot Trivia quiz and Japanese anime days during the week. It was such an eventful week and we look forward to the next Language week next year. This week could not run without the tireless effort of all language teachers. We thank Mr Kobayashi, Ms Fukumori and Mr Godinagh.



# VIC ROADS CALL TO ACTION

*Bentleigh Secondary College School Council*

To improve traffic safety for pedestrians crossing East Boundary Road near King George's Reserve entrance.

It's time for a school speed zone on East Boundary Road.

The speed limit on East Boundary Road is 70 km/h and there is no signage indicating that our school is nearby. Our children are crossing the road before and after school dodging traffic, rushing to get home or to activities without any traffic controls.

We need your help in approaching VicRoads requesting a school speed zone for our school on East Boundary Rd. As a school council, we have made contact with VicRoads with little results. Our application needs your influence and the combined weight of numbers to have the impact we need to see action from VicRoads.

The process is below and we've made it as simple as possible for you. It should only take 5 minutes to complete.

1. [Click this link to take you to the VicRoads feedback page.](#)
2. In the subject dropdown select 'complaint'.
3. Copy and paste the section below in **RED** into the VicRoads complaint form as 'comments'.
4. Please click the button on the VicRoads form asking for a response to your complaint.
5. Add a comment to the school FaceBook page to say you have added your voice to the cause. This will tell us how many complaints Vic Roads is receiving.

To whom it may concern

Re: East Boundary Road Lights. Ref # 5013 203 32

As a concerned parent at Bentleigh Secondary School, I am writing to draw your attention to the large number of children crossing the busy section of East Boundary Road near our school before and after school. Many young people also cross this area of East Boundary Rd to access PTV bus lines.

The current speed for East Boundary road in the school area is 70km/h and there is no signage warning drivers that there is a school nearby.

As a school community, we are asking for:

Traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing to be installed at the entrance to King George Reserve on East Boundary Road.

The speed limit to be reduced to 40km/h during peak school pedestrian traffic.

Signage to alert drivers to the fact that there is a school in the vicinity.

# PEER SUPPORT

*Mrs Yvonne Sirianos, Peer Support Co-ordinator*

Peer Support is one of our school's Leadership Programs which enables our Year 10 students to work with the new incoming Year 7 students and help them to transition into secondary school life. Peer Support Leaders have been chosen for 2019 after completing a rigorous application process. A group of 23 students have made the commitment to work with the Year 7's. They have already participated in a Leadership Training Day which has hopefully given them some insights into the problems that the Year 7's may face, starting at a new school. They have learnt a few strategies for managing and leading their group of students.

During the Grade 6 Orientation Day, all our peer support leaders were prepared and contributed to the efficient running of this important day, providing support to respective Year 7 teachers. According to Ms Courtney Fraraccio, Head of Middle School, "The peer support leaders did an amazing job yesterday! So well organised and great with the students."

Peer Support Leaders for 2019 are: - Rylee Allanby, Claire Anderson, Eva Antonopoulos, Markella Antonoulis, Teaghan Barwell, Ile De Vos, Joseph Folwell, Georgia Georgiadis, Johnny Grech-Hamilton, Alyssa Kyri-Ovenden, Braydn Morisi, Jake Murphy, Emma North, Zoe Robinson, Ester Rubino, Miette Rudolph, Madison Scott, Elysha Sutton, Bianka Tsan, Lilli Vafiades, Mariah Visser, Lauren Wilson.

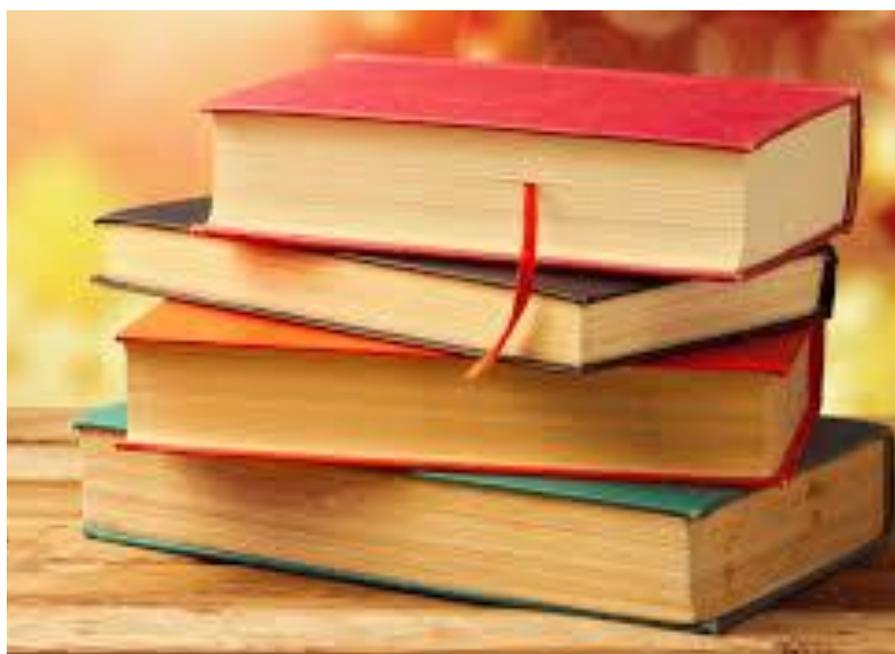
They will again be onboard helping the year 7's on the first day of school. I am looking forward to working with them next year to make the transition from Primary School as smooth as it can be.

# LIBRARY NEWS

*Ms Mary Gardner and Ms Robyn Zienow, Library Staff*

Could students please check at home if there are any library books to be returned. There are still quite a few overdue books so please have a good look around.

Have a wonderful break.



# MUSIC NEWS

*Mr Andrew Albanis, Head of Music*

Our final concert of the year, the Spring Concert, was an outstanding display of how far our students have come.

All the ensembles performed to the highest possible level. The smiles on everybody's faces, both performers and audience, was testament to the joy the evening brought.

Outstanding effort by all teachers and students involved.





# SPORT NEWS

*Ms Sally Hudson, Head of Sport Development*

The Netball Academy has just finished its first full year program. The students have attended early morning sessions twice a week for the full year. I would like to congratulate and thank all the students involved for their dedication, hard work and effort they have put into each and every session. Well done, especially for surviving all those cold Melbourne winter morning sessions. Thank you to the parents also who got their children to school on time.

Students have experienced a lot of growth both personally and physically. Students have been involved in strength and conditioning as well as skill sessions. Students competed in the VSSSA Netball competition and the Victorian Netball Schools Championships. On both occasions Bentleigh Secondary College did the college proud. I look forward to building on our success in the future.

The Netball Academy squad celebrated the end of a fantastic year with a breakfast, prepared and served by the lovely Mrs Elliott.

2018 Awards:

Most Improved – Jake Murphy, Belinda Rowlands

Most Dedicated – Alexis Ansell

Most Valuable – Charli Murphy

I look forward to the growth of the program in 2019 and beyond.





## IMPORTANT DATES

<p>17 Dec Semester Reports published 4:00pm Years 7-11 Presentation Night</p>	<p>18 Feb Inter Cricket Junior House Sport House Chorals Rehearsals 3:30-4:30pm</p>
<p>30 Jan Yr 7, 10, 11 &amp; 12 commence School Photos, Yr 7, 12 &amp; staff @ 9am</p>	<p>19 Feb School tour</p>
<p>31 Jan Yr 8 &amp; 9 Commence</p>	<p>20 Feb Yr 7 Camp Rumberg Intermediate House Sport</p>
<p>1 Feb School Photos, Yrs 8, 9, 10 &amp; 11 @ 9am</p>	<p>21 Feb Yr 7 Camp Rumberg Senior House Sport</p>
<p>4 Feb Yr 8-12 Instrumental Lessons Commence</p>	<p>22 Feb Yr 7 Camp Rumberg School Tour</p>
<p>5 Feb House Meeting</p>	<p>25 Feb Lawn Bowls Junior House Sport Finals House Chorals Rehearsals 3:30-4:30pm</p>
<p>6 Feb Swimming Carnival</p>	<p>26 Feb School Tour</p>
<p>11 Feb Bands Commence Rehearsing House Chorals Incursion House Chorals Rehearsals @ 3:30pm</p>	<p>27 Feb Intermediate House Sport Finals Yr 11 OES Grampians Trip</p>
<p>12 Feb Yr 7 Music Recruitment Day Pds 1-4</p>	<p>28 Feb Yr 11 OES Grampians Trip Senior House Sport Finals</p>
<p>13 Feb Yr 7 Music Recruitment Night @ 7pm</p>	<p>1 Mar School Tour Yr 11 OES Grampians Trip VCE Drama Unit 1-4 Mr Burns Forty Five Downstairs Theatre 5:45-10:30pm</p>
<p>14 Feb Senior Cricket School Assembly</p>	
<p>15 Feb School tour VCE Drama Unit 1-4 Forty Five Downstairs Theatre 5:45 - 10:45pm</p>	

# CLASSIFIEDS



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