I would like to welcome all of the students, parents, and staff to another year of learning at Castlemaine Secondary College.

This year we are continuing our improvement focus on several areas. The first is the academic achievement of all of our students. We are doing this through a strong professional development program and through the introduction of a New Program called RULER. As part of our Mentor program we are working as a school community over the next few years to expand our knowledge of being in the best state for learning. Often our students find learning difficult and experience an uncomfortable discourse as they learn. This program addresses how we feel when we are learning and assists students to identify the different states we need to be in to learn. Sometimes when we are learning we need to be curious. At other times we need to be in discussion and disagreement to gain understanding and other times we need quiet and reflection on what we know. The first aspect of RULER requires each year level to develop a Charter which identifies how we want to feel in school and how to ensure that we create that environment. All students year 7 - 12 have participated in that process as part of our extended mentoring program this week and then we will work to finalise these and display them throughout the school.

There are many opportunities that arise throughout the school year to add richness to our academic program. Already there is a lot of planning underway for the Year 7 Camp, the Castlemaine State Festival, swimming and other sporting teams. It is often through these events that students identify their strengths, abilities and desires to achieve their best. As a College we are very proud of the wide range of activities that students have available to them and we seek our families support to encourage students to take up these opportunities. If you would like to know what is available please contact your mentor teacher and the XUNO updates which are emailed out each week.

For families the School Council is hoping to support more families being involved in the school. We do have formal school meetings which encourage our families to attend starting with our Year 7 BBQ on the 25 February so that families can meet staff and other families in a social setting. Last year we had our first Working Bee at the school for many many years. It was wonderful to have an area of the grounds tidied up and ready for the planting of some vegetables and herbs for use in the Foods Gardens. If you are interested in being involved within the school there are a lot of opportunities and if you would like to register your interest you can do so by contacting/ emailing the school and we will pass on your details through our School Council.

There are two other things that are occurring this year that will impact on our College. The first is the design and building of Stage 2. I have completed a range of planning, and architects have been appointed. I am now just waiting on approval from DET to start our consultations with parents, students and staff. Last time we established a group called Very Important Group (VIG) to meet each fortnight with the Architects and DET to design and provide feedback on the school, I hope that group will be able to start again very soon. That will determine how long the building will take to complete and how soon we will move to one site. As we want to ensure the building is planned and completed well, I do not have definite information or dates at this stage but will keep School Council and families informed. There will be some Community forums with the Architects to gain community feedback. These will be advertised and I would encourage you to attend and provide your views and ideas into the discussion.

The final aspect of work for this year is the School review and establishment of our schools Strategic Plan for 2016 - 2020. I am very keen to have a strong Family and Community voice in setting our College goals for the next 4 years. The School Council has established a Sub Committee which will be providing opportunities for this to occur throughout the year. What could and should the school look and feel like in 2020? What are the features of our College that need to be maintained and what improvements do we want to see in place? These and many other questions can be discussed throughout this year and I look forward to hearing what needs to be put into place.

Please remember if you would like to provide ideas, suggestions or discuss issues at any time we would like to hear from you. Please contact either your child’s mentor teacher or the front office to meet with either Brian Brasher, Assistant Principal at Blakeley Road Campus or Paul Frye, Assistant Principal, Etty street Campus, or myself.

I look forward to a positive and engaging year of learning for all of our students.

Mary McPherson
College Principal
Calling for Parent Representatives—School Council

After an outstanding finish to 2014 with outstanding academic results, 2015 is shaping up to be a bigger and more exciting year with many programs and activities taking place at our school.

The School Council is encouraging parents to put their name forward for the upcoming School Council Election. We have a minimum of two Parent Representative positions coming up, and hope to see a strong response to ensure the council has the best skills and talents available to help guide, build and support our amazing school.

Key dates are: Notice of Election 13 February, Closing dates for nomination 20 February, dates for listing of nominations 27 February, ballot papers prepared and distributed on or before 2 March.

Self-nomination forms are available from the office at either campus and can be filled in a few minutes and left at the office.

Please do not hesitate to discuss the roles and responsibilities with any of the current council members: Gary Fryer, Ellen Madigan, Sam Johnston, Kellie Showell, Beth Mellick (Vice President), Barry Sutton or myself, or any of the School/Department representatives: Mary McPherson, Peter Saltmarsh and Cole Waters.

This is your chance to get involved and help shape the best secondary school in our region.

Warmly,

David Woodgrove

Email—dwoodgrove@gmail.com

CSC Council President

Goldfields Connect – Music In Schools

This pilot project, reported in our last newsletter, now has a YouTube video that highlights our school, featuring some of our students, with Nikki Edgar performing.

The video can be seen at this website address: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTwXHfxEUk0

CSC School Carnival/Festival April 2015

CSC will be hosting a school carnival/festival in April this year. The School Council is looking for parents/carers who would like to form an organising committee for this fun event that will involve the whole school. Please call Beth from the Council if you are interested on 0431 219 980 or email bethmellick@gmail.com

Information for Parents of Students in Year 8 Health

Here are some tips on ways you can be a good body image role model for your child: http://thebutterflyfoundation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Body-Image-Tips-for-Parents.pdf

Three Big Changes to the Vaccine Program

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

The Mount Alexander 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 email: castlemaine.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au by February 28 2015 if you do not want your contact details given to the Mount Alexander Council.

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.

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/s 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.

To learn more about the changes, the diseases, the vaccines, or how you can prepare your child for vaccination go to immunehero.health.vic.gov.au
FOCCACIAS
- Ham & Cheese: $4.50
- Ham & Cheese (½ Serve): $2.50
- Cheese & Basil: $3.00

DRINKS
- Harcourt Apple Juice: $2.50
- Organic Orange Juice: $3.00
- Charles Drinks: $3.50
- 300ml Oak: $2.50
- 600ml Oak: $3.50
- Water: $1.50
- Portello: $2.00

PIZZAS
- Ham & Cheese: $3.50
- Cheese & Basil: $3.00

HOT PASTRIES
- Pie: $4.00
- Pastie: $4.00
- Sausage Roll: $3.50

TOASTIES
- Cheese: $2.00

SANDWICHES
- Chicken, Lettuce & Mayo: $4.50
- ½ Sandwich: $2.50

SNACKS
- Chips: $1.50
- Ovalteenies: $1.00
- Sesame Snacks: $1.00
- Butter Menthols: $2.00

OTHER ITEMS
- Cakes/Slices: $2.00
- Biscuits: $0.50

ICECREAMS
- Milo Cups: $3.00
- Life Savers: $2.00
- Frosty Fruits: $2.00
- Icy Poles: $1.00
- Monaco Bars: $3.00

FRUIT
- Piece of Fruit: $0.50
- Tub of Fruit Salad: $3.50
- Fruit Crumble: $4.00
Bullying Solutions

A PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP THAT:

Takes Conflict Seriously
Shares Solutions
Builds Wellbeing

A must attend event for parents, teachers & families who want to support kids through transitions.

Date: Thursday 5 March 2015
Time: 1:45pm to 3:15pm
Place: Wellbeing Centre
Castlemaine Secondary College,
Blakeley Road Campus

Solving the Jigsaw in partnership with the
Castlemaine Student Wellbeing Support Group,
Castlemaine Secondary College and Mt Alexander
Shire. Private donations and original support from
Maldon & District Community Bank acknowledged.

Bookings: Contact: 03 5434 4100
or email: info@solvingthejigsaw.org.au
TAEKWONDO

Strengthen your mind and body with Martial Art

Safe and enjoyable learning environment.
Fitness and self-defence training
Regular competition opportunities & Olympic sporting event since 2000

Castlemaine Kyneton Taekwondo @ Winters Flat Primary School (Hall)

2015 Term 1 is just commencing!

Senior / Junior Class – Wednesdays 5.00pm – 6.15pm

Contact: Shane Morrison – 4th Dan Black belt, email: daylauto@hotmail.com

Kid’s Kickboxing
Every Thursday
New Split Times !!!
Up to 9 years - 5:00 to 5:30pm
Over 9 years – 5:30 – 6:15pm
Old Castlemaine Gaol
Bowden Street
$10.00
Contact Jim Moran 0418 377 930

Futsal Session Times
Monday: 4:30pm to 5:30pm & 6pm to 7pm
Wednesday: 4:30pm to 5:30pm & 6pm to 7pm
Thursday: 4:30pm to 5:30pm Women Only

Wellbeing Gym Blakely Road Campus
Any queries can be directed to

Peter Richardson 0419 574 243
Or
Email: - pwricho@iprimus.com.au
Community News

Castlemaine Circus Inc.
Term 1 Program Out Now

Castlemaine Circus Inc. was established in November 2013 by a group of volunteers. CCI provides circus training and performance opportunities for people aged 3 years to adults. We believe kids thrive on physically and mentally challenging activities in a community-based non-competitive environment. Plus they have heaps of fun, meet new people and learn new skills.

Term 1 commences Monday February 2nd. Contact us for more info.

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Community News

Harcourt Applefest

KIDS KARNIVAL

Saturday 7th March

Rides, Entertainment, Workshop & Activities for Kids 2 to 22!

Castlemaine Circus, Specky Sports, Climbing Wall, Jumping Castles, Pedal-powered Slot Cars

Mini-train Rides, Pony Rides, Hip-hop, Animal Farm, BMX’s, Sideshow Alley. Tickets from $5 or $25 for all day.

Pre-purchase & save at www.trybooking.com/GSSP

www.harcourtapplefest.com.au