

Principals Report

Welcome Back!

I hope everyone has had a relaxing and enjoyable term break and are ready for the challenges of Term Two. A great deal has to be achieved. As the term will go so quickly it will be important for us all to set concrete and achievable goals. Goals are one important factor that help provide a sense of purpose and direction to what we do.

I encourage all students to think about some goals they might have for this term and beyond. In essence, goals we set should be achievable, easily identified and our progress easily measured. An example may be "to be out of bed by 7.00am each school day this Term" or "to have my maths homework sheets completed by the due date".

In setting goals:

- Choose something important to you
- Choose something that is realistic
- Discuss it with someone who you respect and trust and can give encouragement and support – and will celebrate when the goal is reached.

Above all stay focussed and have a really successful term!

Welcome to New Staff

A special welcome to Kellie Rutherford, David Janissen who have joined our staff today. Kellie and David will be working at Huon.

Parent – Student –Teacher Conference

Parent – Student – Subject Teacher Conference night will be held this Wednesday, April 22. Although we encourage students to attend Parent – Teacher Conferences and to actively participate in the discussions, we find many students are unable to attend for a range of reasons. We would hope that as our students gain confidence and recognise the need to take greater control of their academic progress they would lead the conference. We encourage all students to attend these interviews.

Parent – Teacher Conferences give you an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and to build communication and understanding between home and school. If both you and the teachers are well prepared, even a short conference can be productive and worthwhile.

- Keep a list of questions you want to discuss with the teacher. If you wish to discuss specific pieces of work, have them with you to take to the conference.
- If you want the teacher to discuss a specific matter, telephone in advance so the teacher can be prepared with the information you are seeking.
- Bring your child's most recent report with you to the conference.
- Ask your child if there are matters they would like discussed.
- Take notes during the conference to recap the conference at home.

- Keep the conference positive as we are all looking for ways we can continuously improve.
- Be ready to ask questions, or admit you do not understand.
- Share helpful information about your child or family circumstances. Share your and your child's expectations about the subject with the teacher. Teachers are appreciative of anything that helps them know their students better.
- If you disagree with any judgements the teacher may have made about your child, listen carefully and ask for examples. Being apologetic or angry won't help fix the problem.
- Remember the conference is a valuable time to discuss your child, not share your experiences at school or philosophies about modern education.
- If you are unhappy about the conference, speak with one of the principals.
- Please don't hesitate to contact the school to arrange for a follow up interview with teachers, A Team Teacher or Year Level Coordinator if required.

Some questions:

- How is my child progressing?
- Are there ways I can help at home?
- Does my child need special help?
- How does my child get on with other members of the class?
- Does my child participate in class activities?
- Does my child complete assignments and homework?
- What is my child's behaviour like in your class and at school?
- How well is my child doing in tests and assignments?

After the conference:

- Discuss the conference with your child, including any points of action.
- Stress the good things that were said and be direct about any problems.
- Act on any suggestions made by the teacher.
- Keep working with teachers by staying in touch.
- Children respond positively in knowing the important adults in their life are working together. Whatever disagreements you have with the school should be discussed with one of the principals or the individual teacher. Your child should see a united team.

Vern Hilditch
Principal

Assistant Principals' Report

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher interviews are an ideal opportunity to review the progress of your child and make plans for continuing improvement. It also reinforces the partnership between the college and home.

Parent Teacher interviews are this Wednesday, 22nd April, from 4 - 8pm. Rather than meet with A Team teachers, this time you will have the opportunity to meet individual classroom teachers. This will enable you to get a thorough update on how your child is progressing in each subject area.

Student Leadership in the Middle Years

Many activities are currently underway to engage students in a range of leadership programs. This Term our School Captains and School Leaders will represent the College at the Anzac Day ceremony in Wodonga. Many Events and Sports Leaders are currently involved in a range of fund raising and sports challenges across the college. Please take the time to ask your child if they are involved in these leadership activities.

Student Management

The College aims to keep parents informed about their son or daughter's performance within the classroom. Some of the ways we aim to achieve this is as follows:

- Parent/teacher evenings
- Awards and certificates for Excellence and Participation
- Student leadership programs
- Newsletters, displays

Uniform

Thank you to all parents for their support in the implementation of correct uniform as set out by the College. All students have been reminded during Term 1 to have their black footwear organised for the commencement of this Term. Please contact the Assistant Principal if you have a concern with organising the correct footwear. With the on-set of the colder weather, it is important to ensure students wear the appropriate jumpers/windcheater with their pants or skirt. Please note that beanies are not acceptable uniform. All articles should be clearly marked with the student's name.

Maree Cribbes, Alyson Miller
Assistant Principals

Library

Competition Results

Thank you to all 41 entrants in the WMYC Felltimber Library's "Match and Win! Lucky Library Competition". You truly are word wizards!

The first correct entries drawn were:

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|--------|---------|
| 1. | Jarrod Takle | Year 8 | (FFFCS) |
| 2. | Tiffany Hawkes | Year 9 | |
| 3. | Angela Drennan | Year 8 | |
| 4. | Samantha Treffers | Year 8 | (FFFCS) |

Well done to all of our entrants with correct entries. Good luck next time.

Library Staff

School Nurse

Head Lice

There have been a few cases of Head Lice in the school and the community. Please **check** your child / children's head / heads and **treat** appropriately if detected.

It is important that you let the school know if your child has Head Lice so that we can advise parents to check and treat their children, as the case may be.

The following information may be of assistance.

Breaking the Head Lice Cycle

Do this once a week to find lice and eggs.

You will need: a regular comb, old towel, box of white tissues, round toothed metal head lice comb and large conditioner of cheap white hair conditioner.

1. Apply a generous amount of conditioner to the hair and comb through with a regular comb. This will stun the lice for 20 minutes and will also help to get rid of the eggs.
2. Then comb the hair in sections (3-4 times each section) with the head lice comb until all the hair has been done from scalp to tips (10-20 mins). During combing wipe the comb onto tissues and look for lice and eggs. The lice look a brown/grey colour and have legs. The eggs show up as grey specks on the tissue.
3. Rinse off the conditioner and clean the comb with hot water and an old toothbrush.

If you find HEAD LICE and/or EGGS – use a head lice lotion or shampoo, as directed, then the above hair conditioner method. Continue with the hair conditioner and combing every 2nd night for 10 days (5 times in all).

LOTIONS WILL KILL LIVE LICE BUT NOT ALL EGGS – THE EGGS WILL STILL HATCH OUT!!!

- The CONDITIONER method stuns the lice for 20 minutes. This will help to get rid of the eggs as well as damage them so they will not hatch. The combing also damages any live lice so they are unable to lay eggs. This method breaks the cycle of the head lice.
- Head lice crawl quickly along clean hair shafts. They do not like 'tacky' hair. A small amount of hair spray, gel or conditioner on the hair makes it 'tacky' and is less attractive to the head lice.
- Tie all long hair back.
- Do not spring clean the house but wash the pillowcase in hot water or place in dryer on hot cycle.

Information has been sourced from the Dept. of Human Services pamphlet "Scratching for Answers" which is based on the research from James Cook University, Queensland. If you would like a copy of this, please contact the College.

Helen Allen
School Nurse

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What's Happening at School...

Cultural Diversity Day

WOW!!!!!! What a great day we had on Friday, March 27 celebrating the different cultures in our school. Lots of students and teachers made the effort to get dressed up and we had the pleasure of the company of some hula dancers from Hawaii, Akuc was in traditional Somali dress and dressed



me in a similar outfit.

Anna was in a stunning dress from Nepal whilst the students from Year 8 Japanese and Indonesian were dressed in traditional dress from their respective countries. Many

students were displaying the National colours of Australia as well as many other countries. The food was fantastic... whilst most of the food was made by the students themselves, we would also like to thank all the parents who sent in lovely dishes from home. Everyone's taste buds were tantalised by the culinary delights. We had so many different foods to try - there were desserts from Nepal and North Africa, Mexican nachos, English tea and scones, Scottish shortbread, Aussie BBQ, Indonesian fruit drinks, Japanese rice balls, Vietnamese Pho (soup), Cornish Pasties, Italian pizzas, rumballs and many other snacks to try.

We were also entertained all afternoon by the fabulous school band as well as the



Japanese students performing the Samambushi dance. Helen Allen arranged a visit from some Irish dancers who showed us their marvellous dancing skills. Many

students were also taken for a ride on the Indonesian Becak which was driven by the Year 8 students.

Overall everyone had a fabulous afternoon and I would like to thank all the wonderful students and teachers who helped to make our day such a success, whether that was helping students prepare food, set up or clean up afterwards.

I would also like to thank the following local businesses for their support in the way of food vouchers: Coles Birallee, Coles Wodonga Plaza, Coles High Street and Haus of Meat Birallee.



Music Performances on Cultural Diversity Day

Congratulations to all the students who performed for the Cultural Diversity Day last term. For many it was their first public performance of music they had been practicing for many weeks. It was great to hear such a diverse range of musical styles from around the world.



Thank you goes to the instrumental staff Mr Peter Glover and Mr Gary McDonald for all of their assistance with both the performance day and in weekly rehearsals with the students.

Kerrie O'Connell
Music

Chess

Interschool Chess Tournament

Late in Term 1, Felltimber Campus hosted a chess tournament run by Chess Kids, Melbourne.

57 students participated in teams from Wodonga Senior Secondary College; Sacred Heart College, Albury; Scots School, Albury; Xavier High School, Albury and Felltimber. Each player played 7 games with each game having a time limit of 15 minutes.



Representing Felltimber were: Ray Warr, Emilee Goulding, Steven Heyenga, Nicholas Quihampton and Blake Hodgson.

At the end of the day Felltimber was ranked 5th. Our highest placegetter was Ray (15th) with 4 wins. Well done everyone.

Congratulations to students from Wodonga Senior Secondary School (ex WMYC-Felltimber) who won the day and progress to championships in Melbourne later in the year. Also congratulations to James Oates (WSSC) who won all 7 games on the day.

Last Round of Term One Chess

Two new members joined us for the last round - Sean the Sheep and Blue Bird.

Results for the round:

It wasn't a "Mythical" game after all as "Despair" found out!

"The Cube" boxed up "Cinnamon Snaps".

"Shadow Fang" stuck the fangs into "Dark Master".

"Sean the Sheep" unfortunately didn't round up "Kendo".

No intimidations here towards "Blue Bird" as she took the game from "Dragon Fire".

"Cpt Wart Hammer" mowed down "Adro".

"Sandro" tried but "Hidden" came out of hiding to earn himself 3 points.

"Shadow" earned 3 points.

See you all this Wednesday in the library for the next round of chess. The ladder is on the Integration room window.

Julie Kelly
LOTE

Helen Boulton
Chess Club

Sport

Athletics Carnivals

Late last term, under sunny skies, Huon (Thursday March 26) and Felltimber (Tuesday March 31) students participated in their athletics carnivals at the Pearce Street Athletics Track. There were lots of students wearing the colours of their houses in a variety of interesting ways, ie fairies, footballers, weird and wonderful heads of hair and zinc cream body art work - it was after all a sunsmart event! It was great to see so many of our students entering



into the spirit of the day. Age champions and house winners will be announced this term. Thank you to staff for setting up and running the day, and to students from



Wodonga Senior Secondary College who assisted on the day. Well done to everyone and thank you to staff and students for a great day.



Community Notices

Mother's Day Classic at Sumsion Gardens from 10.00am Sunday, May 10

The Mother's Day Classic raises funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Walking or running the 5km course is a great way to support or pay tribute to loved ones who have been through the breast cancer journey. Walkers and runners are encouraged to wear something pink.

Register online at www.mothersdayclassic.org or donate on the day.

Enquiries: Merryn Deslandes 6022 9285



Parenting Teenagers War or Peace???

Living with a teenager can be exciting, rewarding and often challenging! Explore practical ways to understand and communicate with teenagers.

When: 4 consecutive Thursdays - 30.4.09, 7.5.09, 14.5.09, 21.5.09

Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Where: Centacare, Slattery Catholic Centre, 449 Olive Street, Albury

Cost: \$35pp or \$50 per family

Bookings: 6042 3700(W) or 6025 4715(AH)

Bookings are essential



Dates to Remember

Dates for 2009	Activity
Wednesday, April 22	► Parent /Teacher Interviews
Monday, April 27 - Friday, May 1	► Felltimber - Year 7 Camp (April 27 - 29: 7A,7B,7C,7D) (April 29 - May 1: 7E,7F,7G)
Friday, May 1	► NEDSSA Athletics
Tuesday, May 12 - Wednesday, May 14	► NAPLAN Testing
Tuesday, May 12	► Information Evening for Year 6 students in PAC at WSSC - Woodland Street at 6.30pm
Wednesday, May 13	► WMYC Open Afternoon at Huon and Felltimber for Year 6 students 4 - 6pm

Canteen Roster - Felltimber

Monday, April 27	Katrina Dawes
Tuesday, April 28	Anne Whitehead
Wednesday, April 29	Helen Deegan
Thursday, April 30	Dot Wallace
Friday, May 1	Marg Quine



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