Welcome Back

I hope all members of the College community had a restful break and are enthusiastic about beginning the school year. We have already begun the week with students achieving, with Ben Lewin and Scott Smith receiving Australia Day Awards. These awards were in recognition of their contribution to the College and wider community, and were presented at the Australia Day Breakfast on Tuesday. New year 7 students to our school who also received awards were: Rolly Colville, Byron Holt and Brendan Ayars.

A special welcome to our new staff: Emma de Munk (English), Dylan Kiel (English), Rachel Bath (Leading Teacher) and Boden Alexander (FLO). Also returning from leave are Lee Tomsett, Barb Harris and Kathryn Ballintine. New ES staff include Maddie Heltings (Wellbeing), Jo Baker (Canteen) and Melanie O’Loughlin (Promotions).

Tertiary Placement

With the recent release of university offers, it was pleasing to see that students from country towns have access to such a diverse range of careers. A significant number of our students who applied for tertiary placements received first round offers for their preferred courses. Students gained entry into courses such as Education, Nursing, Legal Practice, Agricultural Science, Social Work, Community Science, Criminology, Sports Science, Medical Science, Optometry, Accountancy, Architecture, Veterinary Science and Tourism at a range of universities across Victoria and interstate. We wish our graduating students the best for the next step in their educational journey.

High expectations of all

One of the College’s values is high expectations. We expect our students to give their best in everything they attempt. Students need to come to school and classes ready to learn with all of their equipment and a positive attitude.

We expect students to wear with pride the correct College uniform and staff will consistently enforce this. Students are reminded that the only jewellery allowed is sleepers or studs in ears and a wrist watch. Mobile phones and valuables should be locked in students’ lockers. These expectations allow teachers and students to focus on learning in the classroom. The Department of Education’s new Education State policy has a clear focus on high expectations across the system. Schools have clear plans in place to continue to support the Department’s goals.

House Swimming Sports

These sports will be held on Thursday 18th February at the outdoor swimming pool and are a whole school activity. Students will attend school as usual and be transported to the pool by bus. Students are encouraged to dress in House colours. The Year 12 students’ dress up parade will be held prior to the commencement of races. There will be a BBQ running and the canteen will be open. The House Sports permission form will be sent home next week and must be returned to the general office by February 12. Parents are invited to drop in to the sports during the day.

Reminders

School Injuries and Insurance

Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund.

Ambulance Cover

Please ensure that you have current ambulance cover as an ambulance will be called in the event of an injury or accident. Parents and guardians of students who do not have ambulance cover are responsible for paying the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

Personal Goods Brought to School

Parents and guardians are responsible for the care of private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

CSEF – Camp and Sport Fund

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. Cards are to be current as of 27 January 2016 or 11 April 2016. The allowance of $22 will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. There is no age limit for the students on these applications. Contact the school office to obtain an application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. Please apply at the College ASAP to receive your payments as early as possible.

Swan Hill College Calendar 2016

January 29  All students at school
February 8  Year 7 BBQ 6pm
February 10  School Photos
February 18  House swimming sports
February 23  Pupil Free day – online reporting and feedback
February 26  Interschool Swimming sports
March 1  Year 7 Immunisations
March 3  Year 10 Choose Survival session P1-2
March 3-4  Year 7 Bonding Days
March 10  Interschool Summer sports
March 14  Labour Day holiday