

Dear Parents and Guardians

I would like to congratulate Mr Brett Wilson on his appointment as an Acting Assistant Principal. Mr Wilson has held a number of significant leadership roles over the course of several years. He will continue to work closely with the Gwonawa Sub School, as well as supporting the Mirrim Sub School. He will oversee the implementation of the VCAL program and also have a key role in the Transition Program (primary to secondary).

I wish to thank you all for embracing the change associated with the implementation of our new school uniform. Over the course of the year we will gradually see an increased uptake of the new uniform from students across years 8-12 as they outgrow their existing uniforms. It is important to remember that those who choose to wear the new dress or new skirt must adhere to the length requirements (on or below the knee); over the years we have been overwhelmed by complaints about the inappropriate short length of the girls' dresses. It is a timely reminder that girls wearing the old uniform (dress or skirt) should also ensure that it is worn at a respectable length. As always, I am more than happy to meet with any parent or student who would like clarification of any aspect of our Uniform Policy/Dress Code.

As discussed in last week's news, over the course of the year I will be sharing information with you about our school priorities. Following on from the topic of increased communication that I spoke about last week, we are beginning to prepare for the upcoming launch of the ABC documentary that Kambrya College will feature in later in the year. In the simplest terms, the documentary will provide a snapshot of the key factors that make a school successful. It will take you on a journey through a typical year in a school; the challenges and the triumphs. It will achieve this by following the lives of a number of students and staff who will essentially tell the story of what works in education and what doesn't. We are very mindful that whilst having a film crew of three on site every school day last year presented some challenges, it also provided us with a unique opportunity to share the day-to-day ins and outs of what it is like to educate our students. Although it is difficult to describe the complexity of the work that goes into ensuring the best outcomes for every student; we are confident that after viewing the documentary you will agree that both teaching and leading a school on a journey of improvement are equally as challenging as they are rewarding.

Prior to the airing, the date which is yet to be confirmed, it is our intention to provide our community with a brief overview of the story lines and a snapshot of staff and students who feature in the program - the information will be published in our monthly newsletter.

On a parting note, we wish all our Chinese family and friends a Happy Chinese New Year.

Warm Regards,

Jo Wastle
Acting Principal

Key Dates

Wednesday 10th – Friday 12th February
Year 12 Study Camp – Lord Somers

Thursday 3rd March
Swimming Carnival

Monday 14th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Saturday 19th March
Working Bee

Wednesday 23rd March
Student FREE day
Parent Teacher Conferences

Thursday 24th March
Cross Country Run
Last Day of Term 1

Monday 11th April
First Day of Term 2

Tuesday 19th April
Athletics Carnival

Friday 22nd April
Student FREE day
Staff Professional Learning Day

Monday 25th April
ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Essential Information

- Please ensure that all permission forms for the upcoming sporting carnivals have been returned to school. In the event that your child has not brought one home for signature, please contact the front office as a matter of priority. Please note that this form was completed as part of the transition paperwork for all Year 7 students.
- Any parents, who are interested in volunteering at the school or becoming a member of our new Parents and Friends group, please email Ms Rose Serra on serra.rosetta.r@edumail.vic.gov.au . Ms Nalini Naidu will contact those who have already expressed interest in joining this group this week.
- Any parent who has recently changed their contact details, including residential address and/or telephone please inform the front office as a matter of priority or ask you child to collect a 'change of details' form from the front of the office.
- Any parent or community member who is interested in contributing to our VCAL Program by hosting a student for a work placement should contact Ms Melanie Reynolds on reynolds.melanie.m@edumail.vic.gov.au to discuss the benefits.
- Please remember to access Compass for information about your child's attendance, homework and other notices.