Dear Parents, Guardians & Students

Our start to the 2011 school year has been quite smooth although it feels like we are moving very quickly this term. There is a lot happening. A number of whole school activities have been run supporting our Sub School programs.

These days or events are very important for us as a whole school and included a Sub School Information Night (22/02/2011); Free Dress for Flood Relief (03/03/2011); a Crazy Hair Day (Leukaemia Foundation) (11/03/2011) and Harmony Day (16/03/2011). Some images from these activities are enclosed in this newsletter.

Thank you to those students and parents who supported some or all of these events. In particular, Harmony Day, was an outstanding event for students, staff and a number of parents who attended. Thank you to parents and grandparents who supplied delicious foods from their culture for students to try.

Congratulations to students who participated in the recent Year 12 Outdoor Education Camp to Thompson River and the Year 10 AFL Camp at Torquay.

Please visit our website to view a number of images celebrating these events.

This year we are enhancing our support to students with a variety of extra curricula opportunities. These include student forums where students come to morning tea with me and discuss a range of student and school related issues. Students will have the opportunity to raise issues with me and we will discuss options for improvement.

We are also keen to tap into how our girls are feeling at school by doing some targeted work with them to better inform us about their connectedness with school and learning confidence. With this in mind we organised a lunchtime forum for our girls on International Women’s Day and canvassed them about what they saw as good and positive things for girls and what they saw as needing improvement. The girls came up with a large number of very useful ideas.

Also on International Women’s day, Jane Bloodworth from careers, organised for 7 of our girls to attend a South East Business Network Breakfast. We were invited by Sandra George who leads the SEBN and heard an inspiring guest speaker, Deb Ferguson, the lady who invented the Zoot suit – the first sun protective swim suits for children and adults. Our girls had to get up very early to attend but it was well worthwhile.

We are reviewing our Students Awards and Recognition program with a view to providing more opportunities for students to be acknowledged. The leadership team have already brainstormed a number of ideas – a couple of which will be trialled this semester. We will also ask students what they would value in this area.

Parents and students will have noticed that we are now a building site with two projects underway. They are our Trade Training Centre and a Sports Pavilion. These facilities will provide even more opportunities for our students.

Congratulations to.....

Leslie Smith and Karen Ermacora – both teachers received recognition for their continued work for VCAA in assessing examinations.
Koffe Jentzen, Reannah Smith and Shaunna Murray who all were successful in receiving David Burgess Foundation Award scholarships.

Najib Mohammad who is the recipient of a Daffyd Lewis scholarship – the value of $14,000 per year of tertiary study.

**Assessment in the VCE** - SACs is one of the acronyms frequently used at school. It is School Assessed Coursework and one of the most important modes of assessment for students undertaking any VCE subject. It is not the only mode of assessment.

In plain terms, it is assessment conducted at school, usually in class time and under specific conditions. The conditions vary from subject to subject. All classes do preparatory work leading up to a SAC. This preparatory work will often have homework attached to it and enough time for students to fully understand what it is they will have to do when a SAC commences. Teachers also encourage students to meet with them outside of class time if they require further assistance or clarification. Many teachers have Wednesday afternoon available for this purpose. Students need to take advantage of the help that is offered.

Students may miss a SAC for a variety of reasons. They must still complete the SAC. If students miss a SAC they are advised to see a representative from their Sub School in order to re-schedule a time to complete the assessment.

**Student attendance** at school is one of the main contributing factors to successful completion in any subject. Obviously students should also come equipped and ready to do the work in each subject. Achievement is linked to attendance. Legitimate absences need to be accounted for. Notes and/or medical certificates are essential.

**Parent Teacher interviews** are scheduled for the 31st March. Parents should attend these interviews to make sure they are up to date with their child’s progress.

Anne Martin, Principal

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**Crazy Hair Day / Free Dress for Flood Relief**

Students recently participated in events to raise funds for some worthwhile causes - Crazy Hair Day (Leukaemia Foundation) and Free Dress for Flood Relief (Red Cross). Thank you to everyone who participated.

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**Girls Cricket**

On Friday 25th February our girls played Cranbourne in the Southern Zone Quarter Finals.

Bowling first we gave away several earlier chances of wickets, dropping 3 catches and missing a run out in the first 4 overs. They went to the first drinks break at 3 for 35.

Whatever our girls drank at the break worked because they came back out and took 7 wickets for only 1 run! Dismissing them for 36. Sharna Naido had the figures 4 wickets for 0 runs off 2 overs 4 & Kirsten McLeod took 3 wickets for 2 runs in her 2 overs.

We got off to a solid start with the bat and passed their score after 10 overs for the loss of no wickets. For the rest of the innings we retired batters so several of the girls could get a hit. At the end of our overs we were 3 for 91, with Rachel Hunter top scoring with 15no & Ellie Blackburn 14no.

A great start to defending our State Title.

On the 4th March the girls defeated McKinnon, bowling them all out for 40. Sharna Naido continued her good form getting 4 for 2 and Maddison Blackburn got 3 for 13. The girls quickly passed their score with only 2 wickets falling.

Riplee McLachlan top scored with 21.

On Friday 11th March, the girls defeated MacRobertson Girls School to take out the 5th Zone Metro Championship.

Bowling first we quickly had them 3 for 9 but then they had 2 good middle order partnerships, putting on 35 & 30 runs for their 4th & 5th wickets. We then powered through their lower order to dismiss them for 84 off 26 overs. Chloe McMillan was the pick of the bowlers, getting 4 for 4 from 5 overs. Ellie Blackburn also had the great figures of 3 for 6 from 6 overs & Sharna Naidu 2 for 15 from 5 overs.

We got off to a bad start in the run chase, losing Cahli for 1, but then Rachel Hunt & Chloe McMillan put on a great partnership of 50 runs. Sharna was quickly out, leaving us 3 for 53 and this bought Kiah to the crease and her & Chloe took our score past MacRobertson. Chloe finished 44no to complete a sensational days cricket by her.

The girls now play at Morwell on Tuesday 22nd March against Orbost who were the Gippsland Champions.
On Wednesday 16th March the College held its annual Multicultural Day (Also referred to as Harmony Day).

Harmony Day gives people the opportunity to celebrate what makes each Australian unique and share what we have in common. The continuing message for 2011 is that Everyone Belongs, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background.

The festivities started with traditional smoking ceremony and welcome to country performed by some of the local Wurundjeri people. This was followed by a fashion parade, international music/dance performances and a ‘World Cup’ Futsal competition. Lunch saw staff and students share food from around the globe as well as some snags from the BBQ.
Archives Upheavals
A ‘Thing Of The Past’

We have grappled for many years with an enormous amount of aging archive boxes and deteriorating material due to a cramped and damp storage space. As part of the College’s commitment to continuous improvement, a substantial amount of time and some money has been invested into a new storage space, including sorting and electronic logging of archive items so that future access and maintenance can be managed in a safe and convenient way.

Office and administrative staff recently celebrated the completion of the new facility with an official ceremony, cutting of the ribbon and a morning tea.

Mandy Bastin, who manages operations as part of her Assistant Principal role, thanked Anne Martin, College Principal, for her support with the project and Craig Quinn for all his dedication and organisational skills. She also acknowledged the perseverance and fine effort of the office staff who, for many years, have managed the archives of the college under very difficult circumstances.

Archives is no longer a ‘dirty’ word or space at Hallam Senior College!

Careers News

Careers Conversations Tuesday 5 April 12.00-12.55

This event is for all students at Hallam Senior College. It is a great opportunity to hear about different careers. There will be 40 speakers volunteering their time to speak to students about their job, their training and their career path. All students choose two speakers to hear. Any student who has not put in their choice of speakers must see Ms Bloodworth asap.

Information Session World of Work City Experience 5.30-6pm (Parent Teacher Interview Night)

All Year 10 students doing WOW in Semester 1 will be participating in a week long City Experience in Term 2. Parents are invited to attend this short information session (replacing previously advised date of 24 March).

Year 10 Work Experience Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June

All Year 10 students doing WOW in Semester 1 will be participating in a week of work experience from 30 May to 3 June. Work Experience positions should be finalised very soon.

University of Melbourne Veterinary Science Open Day

Sun 27 March, Info & registration: ph 8344 7844 www.vet.unimelb.edu.au/openday

Find Out About Engineering Careers

At the 2011 Engineering Careers Expo. Engineers Australia, Victoria Division invites you to attend the Engineering Expo. Attend seminars, 70+ exhibitors, careers and professional advice.

When: 2-7pm, Thurs 31 March, Where: Etihad Stadium, Melbourne, Cost: Free

Register: www.engineeringexpo.org.au

National Careers & Employment Expo

9am-4pm, Fri 25 March & 10am-4pm, Sat 26 March

Discuss study options, source information from industry and employers, speak to major employers; Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Southbank www.eocexpo.com.au, ph 1300 667 121 for information.

Important Dates

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Dates correct at time of printing and are subject to change without notice
Please see www.hallamssc.vic.edu.au or call 9703 1266 for more information