

# Creekside News

14 June 2018

Learning for Life

Dear Parents /Carers

## YEAR 7-9 EXAMS

Good luck to all of our students in Years 7-9 who are sitting exams this week. Thank you to the staff who have spent an enormous amount of time preparing our students and ensuring the process runs smoothly. Looking forward to seeing some excellent results.

## SEMESTER REPORTS

Semester reports are due to be completed in week 11 of this term. All of the reports will be published to the Compass Portal rather than being printed. Parents are reminded to log on to COMPASS regularly for information on what is happening across the school.

## UNIFORM REMINDER

As the weather becomes colder I remind families of our uniform policy. All students must be in the correct school uniform, including footwear. Please familiarise yourselves with our policy which is available on the school website.

## PRINCIPAL CONFERENCE

Last Wednesday and Thursday Gary Eckersall, Wes Forke and I were fortunate to be able to attend the South Western Region Principal's Conference at the Melbourne Convention Centre. The theme of the conference was 'Unleashing Greatness Together', focusing on how schools can work closely with the Department to enact change. The two days were jam packed with lots of world class educational leaders talking about improving educational outcomes for all students in schools. I thank Paul Young and Gerry Lucas for holding the fort whilst we were away.

## STAFFING UPDATE

Rachel McLeod in Year 4 has accepted a position closer to home for the remainder of the year. Jon McGill in Year 1 will be taking leave for the rest of the year and Daniela Brankovic also in Year 1 has resigned from her position to pursue other opportunities. We wish all these staff well in their future endeavours.

## AVENUES FOR FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS

As a College, we are always happy to receive feedback on what we're doing well and any suggestions for improvement. Often a conversation is all that is needed to alleviate concerns or clarify a school expectation. Anonymous suggestions or concerns cannot be acted

## Dates to remember

**Mon 18 Jun** - Yr 9 ODE Mountain Bike Riding

**Tue 19 Jun** - Yr 7, 8 & 9 Interschool Sport

**Wed 20 Jun** - Yr 5 Camp information night 5:00-6:00pm

**Thurs 21 Jun** - Regional Cross Country Competition

**Fri 22 Jun** - Yr 8 Cyber Busters

**Mon 25 Jun** - Primary Chess Vic Zonal Tournament

**Wed 27 Jun** - Yr 2 Celebration of Learning 9:00-10:00am

**Wed 27 Jun** - Yr 8 Interschool Sport

**Thurs 28 Jun** - Yr 6 Celebration of Learning 9:00-10:00am

**Thurs 28 Jun** - Yr 7 & 8 Interschool Sport

## Friday 29 June - End of Term 2

Early Years Dismissal 2:20pm

Middle Years dismissal 2:15pm

## **Monday 16 July - First day Term 3**

**Mon 16 Jul - Mon 17 Sept** - Yr 7 Swimming Program

**Fri 20 Jul** - Yr 3 Melbourne Museum

**Mon 23 Jul** - Prep - Year 6 Assembly

**Mon 30 Jul - Fri 3 Aug** - Scholastic Book Fair

**Wed 1 Aug - Parent teacher Conferences 12:30 - 6:00pm**

Student dismissal 12:00pm

**Mon 13 Aug - Curriculum Day - Student free day**

## Excursion dates & Buses

Please note the excursion dates above and allow extra time for travel on these days as there may be a large number of buses present to collect students.

upon as there is no scope for this important conversation to take place. Please feel free to speak to myself, one of the Assistant Principals, a Leading Teacher or your child's teacher/co-ordinator should you wish to give feedback.

## UPCOMING DIARY DATES

Next term on the 1st August we will be holding our Parent Teacher Conferences from 12:30-6:30pm. Students will be dismissed from school at 12:00pm. More information will be made available closer to the date.

August 13 is a Curriculum day for the school therefore no students will be required at school on this day.

Effie Sultana

Acting Principal

## Kinder-2 Sub School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Queen's Birthday long weekend. It was great to see everyone looking refreshed on Tuesday.

### UNIFORM

Now that winter has begun and children are bringing more clothing to school, please clearly name all items. Making clothing easily identifiable and helps us find their owners. If you believe your child has lost an item of clothing, it may be in the lost property container waiting to be claimed.

### ICAS ENGLISH & MATHS

If you have a child in Year 2 to Year 9 and would like them to sit the ICAS English or Maths assessment, please see the front office or your child's teacher to pick up a form. Applications for these two assessments close on Friday 22nd June.

### CORRIDORS AT THE END OF THE DAY

When picking up your child at the end of the day, please remain outside the buildings for your child to come to you. Coming into the corridors and tapping/peering through windows is disruptive to student learning.

### RUBBISH IN THE YARD

A big thank you to staff and students for picking up rubbish in the yard. A number of students have received a gold coin for showing high levels of responsibility by voluntarily making the effort to help create a clean and healthy environment.

### FLYING BOOKWORM INCURSION

Our Kinder students were lucky enough to have some very special visitors last week. Flying Bookworm visited our little friends who watched three stories being performed; Mulga Bill's Bicycle, The Little Engine That Could and Three Billy Goats Gruff. Some students were able to join in, and some even became part of the performances. During the incursion, students were able to use language and engage in symbolic play to imagine and create roles, scripts and ideas. They were able to actively use, engage with and share the enjoyment of language and texts in a range of ways.



## UPDATE PERSONAL DETAILS

On occasion, Creekside staff will need to make contact with you. Please help staff by ensuring your contact details are up to date. This includes your address, mobile, home and work phone numbers, and emergency contacts. If you need to update your contact details, please speak to one of our friendly office staff.

### REMINDERS

Reports will be handed out in the last week of term

Last day of Term 2 - Friday 29th June

First day of Term 3 – Monday 16th July

Parent Teacher Interviews – Wednesday 1st August

Curriculum Day. Student free – Monday 13th August

Wesley Forke

Acting Assistant Principal

## 3-6 Sub School

Dear Parents and Carers,

### YEAR 5/6 AUTHOR TALK

Last Friday the renowned author Michael Pankridge came to talk to our Year 5 and 6 students. Michael has written 35 novels and is most well-known for his 'Legends and Toby Jones' series. Michael shared what it is like to be an author and discussed how students can get the most out of planning their writing, how they can effectively engage a reader through plot twists and how they can develop an interesting character. Michael was very well received by both the students and teachers, and he was impressed by our students' behaviour and engagement in his presentation.

### YEAR 6 TERM 2 CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

On Thursday 28th June, the Year 6 students will be having their Term Two Celebration of Learning. From 9:10am - 9:50am students will be showcasing their Civics and Citizenship ICAT and other learning from Term 2. The students and their teachers look forward to seeing you in the Janine Blachford Auditorium in what is sure to be a fantastic display of our students' high levels of effort and achievement.

### YEAR 5 CAMP INFORMATION SESSION

Parents are invited to attend the Year 5 Camp Information session which will take place in the Auditorium on Wednesday 20th June from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.

Last year was the first year our students went to the Phillip Island Adventure Resort, with students and teachers alike having an amazing time. During the evening teachers will share information on the activities, accommodation, food, medical treatment and cost of the camp. An opportunity for parents and students to ask questions will also be provided at the end of the presentation.

### TERM VALUE

As I walk through the playground and visit classrooms I

am pleased with the way in which students interact with each other. I see students being respectful, accepting each other's differences, showing responsibility for each other's belongings and being honest. It is also great to see our teachers acknowledging positive behaviours by rewarding students with Creekside Coins, Dojo points, class rewards or verbal praise.

### **UNIFORM**

It has been great to see that the vast majority of students are wearing the correct school uniform every day. This includes wearing the school polo, rugby top, jacket, tracksuit pants and navy or white socks. A reminder to all students that t-shirts worn underneath the school polo or shirt should not be visible.

More information on the college uniform can be found on the school website.

<http://www.creeksidecollege.vic.edu.au/parent-information/uniform.aspx>

### **MURAL**

The feedback regarding our new mural near the west school entrance has been overwhelmingly positive. Our Visual Art team have designed and constructed the mural with no external assistance, which has been most impressive. The Australian flora and fauna depicted certainly has added a splash of colour to our school and it will be an engaging piece when completed. A special thanks to Ms Rastas and Miss Boyd for their leadership of the mural.

Gerard Lucas

3-6 Assistant Principal

### **7-9 Sub School**

Dear Creekside families,

The year 7-9 Exams began on Tuesday the 12th of June. Please be aware that stress levels be higher than normal for students, staff and parents alike. Being able to manage exams and this stress is the very reason we start them in year 7. Not surprisingly, our students seem to cope quite well with the change in expectation with relative ease.

They have presented for exams with the correct materials, on time and with a positive attitude about showing their learning. Of course, some of the students showed some nervousness, which from my perspective appears they are taking the exams seriously. Students understand that each exam is a chance to display how they have grown as learners, regardless of their starting point. Student have been well informed on what to expect during each exam. This experience gives students a snapshot of what to expect during the later years of their schooling.

My thanks go to the students for the mature way they approached the exams, and for the staff who planned and prepared the exams and ensured the smooth running on each day.

Last week I was fortunate enough to attend the Student Voice meeting with all of the 7-9 SCR representatives. From the research I have been exposed to I know that practices that encourage student voice and their active participation are at the heart of every healthy school's culture. Student voice and participation is, therefore, a focus of improvement in the 7-9 year levels. The purpose of my visit was for the students understand how decisions that affect them are made and to provide the representatives with an update on their work as student leaders, and to help me better understand things from the students' perspective.

Student voice happens in lots of different ways. Teachers are encouraged to survey students over the course of the semester, inviting them to reflect on our approach to teaching and learning. The reflections often generate very helpful feedback for both staff and students. Teachers feedback to their classroom with their own reflections and help them to better understand the students and how and if they are learning, and to plan for ongoing improved student learning. My interest in the opinions and ideas presented at the recent SRC meeting found students value the opportunity to offer their observations and experiences, and they genuinely appreciate the shared dialogue that follows. Moving forward I am expecting to see a number of proposals from students to improve their experiences at Creekside.

There are a number of upcoming sporting teams going out this fortnight. Year 7 have Netball, Boys Soccer, Boys AFL and Boys and Girls Badminton going out. There is also a regional cross country event for Yr 7-9 students that have qualified. Year 9 Outdoor Ed students will be hoping for good weather for their mountain biking excursion as they are bouncing around with excitement to put their theory into action on the trails. Finally, there is a presentation to the year 8 student called Cyber Busters that should offer these student much food for thought the next time they get on to social media.

A reminder that Parent Teacher Conferences are also not far away: Wed 1st Aug 12:30-6:30pm. It will be a normal day in the morning and all students are expected to attend. Please keep a look out for details. Please be aware of the remaining Curriculum Days for the 2018 year, they are on Mon 13th Aug, Mon 5th Nov and Fri 7th Dec.

This also reminds me to remind all parents using the Compass App on your phone, please remember to always use the option 'Open in Browser' from the menu (top left, 3 lines) to see all alerts and excursions for your child. Based on your feedback you will notice you get an email or notification there is an excursion or permission notes on your Compass. However, to see this you must use the open in browser. If you know how to set up 'push notifications' on Compass I would recommend you do that as well. If not, ask one of your clever children to help you out, the ones I speak to can sometimes do these

things with their eyes closed.

Staff across the school have been working on completing the end of semester reports which will be available before the holidays begin. Can you believe that will mark the halfway point of the year? While you won't be able to change the outcome of the reports, the upcoming parent teacher interviews will be a timely point to discuss anything you like with your child's teachers.

If you have any questions or queries about anything happening in and around the 7-9 sub school please call the front office and I will be happy to discuss with you.

Kind Regards

Paul Young

Assistant Principal 7-9

### Primary Science News

#### **BIG SCIENCE SHOW (YEARS 3-6 STUDENTS ONLY)**

\$5 to be paid no later than Friday 3rd August.

As part of our Science Week celebrations, the Year 3-6 students will be attending the 'Big Science Show' on Friday 17th August.

The 60 minute incursion will immerse students in Science and includes demonstrations and audience participation. There will be giant smoke vortices, levitating beach balls, flying toilet paper, flour fireballs, hair-raising electricity, and lots of learning!

#### **SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH**

For those students who have entered the Science Talent Search, 'help' sessions will be conducted on the following days in the Primary Science room during recess (1:40-2:10pm):

- Thursday 21st and 28th June
- Thursday 26th July
- Thursday 2nd August.

Please encourage your children to attend so I can give them assistance and advice regarding their project.

Judging day will be on the morning of Saturday 4th August.

For further information about the competition - its rules, conditions and guidelines, please visit:

<http://www.sciencevictoria.com.au/sts/documents/STSHandbook2018.web.pdf>

#### **DID YOU KNOW...?**

- The human heart is approximately equal in size to that of a person's fist
- An adult's heart weighs 220-260 grams
- The small intestine is about 6 metres long whereas the large intestine is about 1.5 metres long
- Your lung on the left side of your body is a bit smaller than the lung on the right

- On average, a person at rest takes about 16 breaths per minute – that's about 960 breaths an hour, 23,040 breaths a day and 8,409,600 a year

#### **WANTED URGENTLY**

1.25L drink bottles, pop-up drink bottle tops and old CDs/DVDs

1.25L drink bottles, pop-up drink bottle tops and old CDs/DVDs are needed for use in Science Club. Please send these to school with your children.



#### **QUIZ**

The first student to come to Mrs Fraser with the correct written answers to the following five quiz questions wins a prize.

1. What part of the body does asthma affect?
2. How many lungs do humans have?
3. The lungs are the same size. True or false?
4. When air is breathed in, oxygen is brought into the lungs. What gas is breathed out?
5. The trachea is also called the \_\_\_\_\_?

#### **PREVIOUS QUIZ RESULTS**

Congratulations to Dylan (4D) and his brother Jake (2A) for being the first students to come to me with the correct answers to the following questions in the last Science quiz.

1. What is the name of the volcano that is currently erupting on Big Island in Hawaii? **(A)** Kilauea
2. How is magma different from lava? **(A)** Magma is molten rock that is underground however if it reaches the Earth's surface and keeps flowing like a liquid, it is called lava
3. What is the name of the volcanic rock that can float on water? **(A)** Pumice
4. On what planet is the largest known volcano in our solar system? **(A)** Mars
5. What is the name of a scientist who studies volcanoes? **(A)** Volcanologist

#### **TRY THIS EXPERIMENT AT HOME: 'MAKING A STRAW ROCKET'**

How do you make a rocket quickly and easily out of drinking straws?

Try this activity to find out...

<https://www.madaboutscience.com.au/shop/free-experiments/post/straw-rocket/>



Nichole Fraser

F-6 Science Leader

## Teenage Parties and Alcohol

Dear Parents and Carers

Alcohol is a common part of Australian culture. Many of us drink when we get together with friends, to celebrate weddings, birthdays and other big occasions and to unwind after work. As drinking is widely promoted as being fun and glamorous, it should come as no surprise that teenagers want to join in. But alcohol and adolescence are a risky and unhealthy mix.

While it is not likely that many Year 8 and 9 children are attending parties with alcohol without their parents or carers, it is a good idea to start thinking about how you will manage and react to these occasions when they do occur. And they will occur at some point!

Year 8 students have just covered alcohol in sessions in class. In September, the Year 9's will attend the day long Party Safe Expo Day at school intended to increase their knowledge about keeping themselves and their friends safe.

Everyone has different ideas. Some parents may see underage drinking as part of growing up, or even think it makes them cool to let their teenagers drink. They may think they are keeping teenagers 'safe' by letting them drink at home, where they are with family, or they know where they are, but the reality is that drinking alcohol is harmful to teenage brain development in so many ways.

### What's the evidence that alcohol is harmful to teenagers?

Teenagers can be more vulnerable to the effects of alcohol because the developing brain in children and adolescents is much more sensitive to its damaging effects.

Research so far shows that:

- Alcohol use affects developing brains and can lead to long-term learning difficulties and memory problems.
- The earlier teenagers start drinking, the more likely they are to drink at higher levels during adolescence - and this may increase the risk of getting into trouble with alcohol in later adolescence and as adults.
- While teenagers are more vulnerable than adults to the effects of alcohol on learning, memory and judgment, they also seem to be less easily sedated by alcohol and their co-ordination is less affected. This means they can stay awake and drink for longer than adults - which may partly explain why some adolescents binge drink.
- The risks of accidents, injuries, violence and self-harm are high among drinkers aged under 18.
- Drinking in adolescence is linked to risky sexual behaviour.
- Drinking in teenage years is linked to higher risks of alcohol dependence in young adulthood, even when drinking at low-risk levels.

So for all the reasons above experts suggest that young people under 18 years of age should avoid alcohol completely. Here are some tips that may help:

Having family conversations about delaying drinking alcohol is a very positive step, as is role modelling responsible alcohol use at home, like drinking safely, and getting your own drinks rather than asking a teenager to fetch one for you.

Talk to your teenager about alcohol. Explain the risks and the harms associated with drinking at a young age. Be firm, confident, clear and consistent.

Keep the lines of communication open, so your teenager can feel comfortable talking to you about the things that concern him or her.

Let them know they can come to you if something does go wrong or they are in an unsafe situation.

Remember, you are not alone. Other parents of teenagers are most likely facing the same issues. Share your concerns as well as what has worked for you when dealing with teenagers and alcohol. Seek professional help if you need it. If you are hosting a party with teenagers under the age of 18 in Victoria, **it is illegal** (and therefore very expensive) **to supply alcohol to those children without specific consent from their parent/carer.**

Parents can protect themselves and their teenagers by following these guidelines when hosting parties for their children:

- Host safe, alcohol-free activities
- Refuse to supply alcohol to children or allow drinking in your home or on your property
- Be at home and visible when your teenager has a party or gathering
- Make sure your teenager's friends do not bring alcohol into your home (it can be very common at parties for some teenage guests to hide alcohol)
- Talk to other parents about what you are doing
- Provide non-alcoholic beverages and food!
- One entrance to the party
- Invitations only – refuse gate-crashers

Be safe out there!

Link to more information from Better Health Channel:

- <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/healthyliving/alcohol-teenagers>

From Josie Mitchell, Secondary School Nurse

## School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

In our last newsletter, we published our Creekside Positive Behaviour Matrix for Prep to Year 6. This week, we would like to show you the matrix for Year 7 to Year 9. You will see that each section of the matrix is related to one of our college values; Responsibility, Honesty, Respect and Acceptance. It outlines how students can show positive behaviours based on our school values at different locations around the college.

Please have a look over this document and discuss with your child/children how they might demonstrate positive behaviours at Creekside.

# Creekside College Positive Behaviour Matrix 7-9

	Classrooms, Learning Areas & Assembly	Outdoor Areas	Locker Areas	Canteen	Toilets	Lining Up Areas/Moving around the school	School Environment
<b>We are responsible</b>	<p>We arrive at school on time</p> <p>We communicate school events to parents and ensure consent is given on time</p> <p>We are focused and prepared for lessons</p> <p>We wear the full school uniform correctly</p> <p>We keep the school environment clean and tidy</p> <p>We take responsibility for our learning</p>	<p>We maintain a clean environment</p> <p>We follow rules for each game</p> <p>We ask permission to collect equipment from out of bounds areas</p> <p>We are aware of the safety of others</p> <p>We report if someone is doing the wrong thing or something</p>	<p>We keep locker clean and tidy</p> <p>We are patient and wait our turn to get to our lockers</p> <p>We collect what we need from our lockers and move out of the way</p> <p>We keep away from locker areas during break times</p>	<p>We wait our turn in line</p> <p>We are prepared to order with money and knowing what we want to order</p> <p>We move out of the area after we have collected food</p> <p>We buy food at the right times</p> <p>We use money for ourselves</p>	<p>We use toilets appropriately</p> <p>We walk to the toilet with a signed diary</p> <p>We practice good hygiene</p> <p>We use the toilets before school and during breaks</p>	<p>We ensure we have all only the required equipment ready for class</p> <p>We remain in designated lining up area</p> <p>We move quickly and quietly around the school</p> <p>We wait for direction from teacher</p> <p>We use a note/signed diary to leave the classroom</p>	<p>We bring all forms and payments for excursions back on time</p>
<b>We are honest</b>	<p>We accept feedback from our teachers</p> <p>We communicate honestly with our teachers about our understanding and feelings</p> <p>We complete our work to the best of our ability</p>	<p>We make honest decisions/calls during team games</p> <p>We are honest about our actions</p>	<p>We are honest if the lockers aren't locked</p> <p>We report unlocked lockers</p> <p>We are in and out of locker areas</p> <p>We respect the lockers that aren't ours</p>	<p>We have correct money</p> <p>We hand in lost money</p> <p>We are honest about change received</p>	<p>We use the right toilet when necessary acknowledgement</p> <p>We use the toilets for an appropriate length of time</p> <p>We report any problems to a teacher</p>	<p>We are honest to teachers about what we have been doing while moving around the school</p> <p>We are going to the right place at the right time</p> <p>We understand other classes are learning</p>	<p>We are always honest to ourselves and others</p> <p>We complete our own homework</p> <p>We are positive role models</p>
<b>We are respectful</b>	<p>We actively listen to others who are speaking</p> <p>We support others to stay on task</p> <p>We treat the belongings of the college and others with respect</p> <p>We ensure that everyone has the right to learn</p> <p>We ensure that everyone has the right to feel safe</p>	<p>We demonstrate good sportsmanship</p> <p>We respect the space of others, including classes</p> <p>We listen to the yard duty teacher</p> <p>We can respect other people's property</p>	<p>We respect the space of others in the locker bay</p> <p>We respect all lockers and locks</p>	<p>We are courteous to the canteen staff</p> <p>We are courteous to those students around us in the line</p> <p>We wait patiently in a straight line</p> <p>We throw our rubbish in the bin</p>	<p>We think about the privacy of others</p> <p>We keep toilets clean by using them properly</p>	<p>We wait calmly and patiently for the teacher</p> <p>We respect other people's work environment</p>	<p>We treat others in the community with respect</p> <p>We treat the environment with respect</p> <p>We respect the learning time of others</p>
<b>We are accepting</b>	<p>We support and encourage everyone in our class</p> <p>We adopt a growth mindset</p> <p>We accept that everyone learns in different ways</p> <p>We accept that we will be working with others</p>	<p>We encourage playing abilities of others</p> <p>We ensure everyone has the right to join in</p> <p>We accept that the oval is a shared space</p> <p>We accept break time is over and it is time to line up</p>	<p>We accept that it may take some time to get to our locker</p> <p>We accept that we may not get a top locker</p>	<p>We will accept to move at the back of the line if asked to do so</p> <p>We accept that we may need to wait in line</p>	<p>We accept that our toilet block is a shared facility</p> <p>We accept that we may need to wait</p>	<p>We accept that we may have to be patient and wait at times for others to move before you</p>	<p>We accept others points of view</p> <p>We understand that everyone is different</p>