KAMBRYA COLLEGE

Kambrya News

Weekly News Term 3, Week 4 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It's nice to be back at school after four weeks of long service leave. I would like to thank Mr. Brett Wilson who stepped into the role of acting principal in my absence, as well as Ms. Sarah Chase who stepped in as the acting assistant principal. Term 3 is always a busy one. Planning for 2018 has already commenced. At this stage we are anticipating 330 new Year 7 enrolments for 2018, as well as a number of enrolments across the other year levels. The increase in student numbers has necessitated us having discussions with the Department of Education about facilities. Consequently we will be taking delivery of a new Mod 5 portable (two classrooms) prior to the end of term 3. There is also the potential that we may take delivery of other classrooms later in the year.

The Parents and Friends Group and School Council have agreed that there will be some changes to the Dress Code. We have listened to feedback and acted accordingly. As a result, I am pleased to inform you that 2018 Year 12 students will be able to retain the old school uniform in Year 12. All other students will be required to wear the full new school uniform by the first day school in 2018. Additionally students no longer have to wear the school jumper underneath the school jacket. We are mindful that this has been common practice over the last two years, however we are now formalizing that this is the case. Of course we strongly encourage students to wear the school jumper as it provides additional warmth over the winter season. Please be reminded that students are not permitted to wear black pants to school. This is considered to be a breach of the Dress Code. These changes to the Dress Code will be reflected in an updated version of the Dress Code that will be made available on the College webpage. We have worked hard to take on feedback and implement sensible change where it is warranted.

I would like to remind all parents that we are open to feedback. They should feel free to email the College directly or to drop in and ask for an appointment with either myself of an Assistant Principal. With this in mind there is also an opportunity for approximately 500 randomly selected parents to complete an official online survey about your thoughts on a broad range of school operations. If you are one of these parents you will have received an email from the College outlining the process. I encourage all those invited to participate to do so. This data is made available to the school via the Department of Education and helps to inform our school improvement agenda.

Next week I will provide an update on the 1:1 laptop program for 2018, I am aware that parents are anticipating more information about this. Until then, I wish you all a safe weekend.

Kind Regards

Joanne Wastle
Principal

Key Dates

2017

Thursday 17th - Saturday 19th August
School Production

Friday 18th August
School Tour 11.30am

Monday 28th Aug - Friday 1st Sept
Year 7 Camp

Wednesday 30th August - 9th September
Cambodia Cultural Trip

Friday 1st September
School Tour 11.30am

Monday 4th September
Year 7 Immunisations Round 3

Wednesday 13th September
Parent Teacher Conferences
STUDENT FREE DAY

Friday 15th September
School Tour 11.30am

Friday 15th September
Cultural Trips to Japan and Germany depart

Sunday 17th September
Year 10 Central Camp departs

Monday 18th September
Year 12 Trial Examinations

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd September
Year 8 Tasmania Camp

Friday 22nd September
Last Day of Term 3 - 2.30 dismissal

Dear families,

Attached to this newsletter is some information about the Respectful Relationship program, the Victorian Government education initiative as part of the response to the Royal Commission into Family Violence. The program develops social and relationships skills like resilience, help-seeking, emotional literacy, and positive gender relations. At the moment, our Year 7 and 8 HPE classes are beginning to implement the program, and we will be extending it throughout the school in the coming year.

Each week we will include some information about what's happening with the program, so parents can have conversations around some of the topics discussed in classes knowing the context around some of those curly questions!

Any questions about the program can be directed to Sarah Day (day.sarah.t@edumail.vic.gov.au) at the College.

Kristy Vincent, Kate Bevis and Sarah Day
Respectful Relationships Team

ART News

City of Casey
Schools ON STAGE
HOSTED BY TIM CAMPBELL
Local schools light up the stage in a musical extravaganza like no other!
THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2017
7.30 PM, HILLCREST THEATRE
500 Soldiers Road, Clyde North | Entry via Gate 3 | Melway Ref 131 H10
TICKETS: WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/QGCS
ON SALE MONDAY 31 JULY AT 9.00 AM UNTIL SOLD OUT
For further information please contact the City of Casey on 9705 5200
or visit our website www.casey.vic.gov.au/youth or 'like' us on facebook www.facebook.com/caseyyouth
NRS: 133 677 (for the deaf, hearing or speech impaired) TIS: 131 450 (Translating and Interpreting Services)
Mr Tim Campbell appears by arrangement with Claxton Speakers International

Respectful Relationships

Secondary years

We are making Victoria the Education State - a state renowned for its world - leading education system that gives our children the best start to a healthy, happy and prosperous life.

The Victorian Government is investing $21.8 million to support Respectful Relationships in all Victorian schools, because the best relationships are respectful ones.

ABOUT RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Respectful Relationships is a wide ranging initiative to help young Victorians deal with a range of challenges they may face and covers topics including being respectful, resilient and engaged at school and confident in themselves.

Respectful Relationships promotes equality and helps boys as well as girls learn how to build healthy relationships. The initiative prepares students to face challenges by developing problem-solving skills and building resilience and confidence.

Family violence has a devastating impact on our community and affects people from all walks of life. The Royal Commission into Family Violence recommended Respectful Relationships be introduced to all schools to change attitudes and prevent the prevalence of family violence in future generations.

In 2016 Respectful Relationships became a core component of the Victorian Curriculum and is being taught in all government and Catholic schools and many independent schools.

Respectful Relationships is underpinned by evidence that shows schools can play a key role in preventing family violence by helping students develop an understanding of healthy relationships and respect.

RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIP LEADING AND PARTNER SCHOOLS

In 2017, more than 120 Victorian schools are receiving funding and intensive professional development training to become Respectful Relationships Leading Schools and over 900 schools are being mentored by the Leading schools to become Respectful Relationships Partner Schools.

These schools are being supported to implement a whole school approach to Respectful Relationships. Schools will look at their culture, practices and policies and drive meaningful change, building an enhanced culture of respect and equality as schools and as workplaces.

Leading and Partner Respectful Relationships Schools are provided with targeted assistance to support and refer students, staff and families who are affected by family violence to specialist services.

RESILIENCE, RIGHTS & RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS TEACHING AND LEARNING MATERIALS

Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships (RRRR) is a suite of teaching and learning materials for Prep-to-Year 12. They are available online for all schools to use.

The resources have been developed by world-leading experts from Deakin University and the University of Melbourne, Graduate School of Education. These age-appropriate resources to support curriculum delivery include lesson plans and activities that help students learn and practice social skills and apply them in a positive way to learning, life and relationships.

WHAT IS TAUGHT IN THE SECONDARY YEARS?

Respectful Relationships in the secondary years focuses on treating everyone with respect and dignity, and teaches students about the relationship between gender and power.

The RRRR teaching and learning resources provide tailored materials for years 7 to 12, including age appropriate lesson plans and activities that help students learn new skills and build empathy, confidence and resilience.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF STUDENTS LEARNING ABOUT RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS?

We know that a good education is about more than simply getting good marks. It is about supporting children to become contributing members of our communities, with productive and healthy adult lives.

Evidence shows that respectful relationships education:

- helps to equip children with the skills to communicate positively and respectfully, build positive relationships and challenge stereotypes that don't support equality.
- positively impacts academic outcomes, mental health, classroom behaviour and student-teacher relationships (Our Watch, 2016).

HOW CAN RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS HELP ADDRESS FAMILY VIOLENCE?

Family violence is complex and multifaceted but research shows that gender inequality is a key driver (VicHealth, 2007).

More than one in three Australian women aged over 18 has experienced violence since the age of 15 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2012). A 2013 VicHealth study found that of Australian young people aged 16-24:

- Almost a quarter of believe that partner violence can be excused if the person is so angry they lose control
- Only half knew where to get help if they were faced with a problem about violence against women (VicHealth, 2013)

The evidence supporting Respectful Relationships is overwhelming and comes from respected institutions such as the World Health Organization and The Royal Commission into Family Violence. Helping children develop an understanding of healthy relationships and respect is key to preventing family violence in the future.

The Respectful Relationships Education in Schools (RREiS) trialled across 19 schools, and reaching 1,700 teachers and 4,000 students was found to have had a positive effect on; students' attitudes, knowledge and skills, and school policies, culture and ethos.

MORE INFORMATION:

For more information visit:
education.vic.gov.au/respectfulrelationships

For enquires email:
respectful.relationships@edumail.vic.gov au