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College Newsletter
Friday 20th March, 2020
Issue No: 2

Important Dates To Remember

Friday 27 th March	Last Day Term 1.30 pm dismissal
Tuesday 14 th April	First Day of Term 2
Tuesday 5 th May	Laverton P-12 College Career Expo

Principal’s report

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are aware, there has been a lot of information in the media about COVID-19 Coronavirus. The College will continue to follow the advice from the Department of Education and will operate as usual. Our staff regularly monitor the health and hygiene of students daily and continue to practice and promote preventative safe hygiene measure to minimise the risk. Students in P – 6 have a regular handwashing schedule throughout the day and hand wash has been placed in all toilets. We thank families for their support and understanding during this time and we will keep you updated on any changes to advice that occurs. Please check Compass and our Facebook pages for updates.

Following on from this advice a number of our extracurricular activities have had to be postponed or cancelled. These include the year 1 “Toys over time” incursion, year level camps, athletics carnival and interschool sports, the Crescendo program and our Term 1 Parent teacher interviews, which were scheduled to be held on Tuesday 24th March. Should you wish to speak to your child’s teacher, please contact the relevant staff member to arrange a suitable time.

Doctors’ in Schools Program: The College has been successful in our application to participate in the Doctors’ In Schools Program. This means we will have an adolescent health-trained G.P. on site every Thursday from 9am to 1pm for secondary school students to make appointments. Students can make appointments by themselves or with a parent/carer and will not incur any out of pocket expenses for the student consultation. This support for our students will ensure any health problems are addressed early and reduce the pressure on parents.

MiCare after school study club: To support our students with their school work, the MiCare after school study circle will be operating every Monday from 3.10 – 5.00pm from the school library. This program will give our students time to study or complete homework with trained tutors.

College Captains: Congratulations to our College Captains Sher Thachaw and Law Eh Gay Soe. These students will represent our school at all major events and will work with the College leadership team as an agent of student voice in the school.

School Council: I would like to welcome Selvazhaki Govindarasu to the College School Council. Selvazhaki joins Martin West, and Ruby Lay as the parent representatives of school council. Welcome also to our student representatives, Sharbil Tami and Deepshika Adhinarayanan and our staff representatives Sofia Mougos, Christopher Chandler and Josephine Montalti. Thank you to Shelly Bernoth, Mohammed Saleh and Michelle Hinton for their commitment to the College and their work on school council. Nominations for school council are still open and I encourage interested parents to speak to me about becoming a member on school council.

Volleyball success: Congratulations to our Senior Girls Volleyball team on their win as Premiers of the Hobsons Bay Secondary Sport Division. Thank you to Mr Barrera for coaching the girls.

End of Term: The last day of Term 1 is Friday 27th March. Students will be dismissed at 1.30pm. Please ensure that arrangements have been made to collect

your child at this earlier time. **All students will return to school on the first day of Term 2 Tuesday 14 April.**

I am pleased to announce that I have been provisionally appointed as the Principal of Laverton P-12 College. I am looking forward to working with you and your children to further their education for many years to come.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very safe and pleasant break. I hope the Autumn weather provides you ample opportunity to enjoy some family time together and we will look forward to seeing you all back at school in Term 2.

Rosa Marchionda
Principal

Prep – 6 News

As we start preparing for our first term break, I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight how great Term 1 has been, where the focus on teaching and learning continues to be a priority for all of us. Our 'Start Up' Program at the beginning of the term was a time for us to establish good working routines, set high expectations for learning success and to get to know each other. Everyone is now settled and students are already celebrating learning achievements. I often have students visiting me to share their work, and this is always a highlight of my day.

All of our classroom teachers, specialists, support staff and students started the year focusing on creating engaging learning spaces. Our learning spaces this term have been co-created with our students to ensure that the classroom is like a 'third teacher'. This approach acknowledges that families are a child's first teacher, teachers are the second teacher and the learning environment acts as our third teacher. This has been an exciting shift as our students have been asked to collaborate with their peers to co-create anchor charts and co-design their learning spaces. Our school day begins at 8.50am, and we welcome you to visit us in our classrooms to see the amazing work that is being done. Term 1 is always an exciting time for our new prep students who are starting school for the very first time. Looking into our prep classrooms you would think we were already in Term 3. Ms Fithall and Ms Lewis have got everyone into school routines and they are busy reading, counting and exploring their new school for the very first time. Stay tuned for our *100 Days of School* celebrations next term, one of my personal highlights of the school year.

You will notice your child will be bringing home some new take home readers this year. We have been busy

buying new readers for our students and this is supplemented by the quality literature in our classroom libraries. Stay tuned for more updates. Stay safe and take care of yourself and your family during the term break and I look forward to seeing you all next term.

Dianne Clare
Assistant Principal P-6

A Blast from the past

It was wonderful to see students and parents attend the unveiling of the time capsule held on Friday 28th of February 2020. Students were super excited! It began 4 years ago. This was an extremely motivating project, and it had a purpose...a keepsake of memories, thoughts of the year and reasons to write. Specifically, in the time capsule, it contained information about student's personalities at the point of time, stories, letters and more! Students were enthusiastic to have the opportunity to take work home to share with their families.



BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club is back in the PRIMARY SCHOOL operating Term 2 every day throughout the year for those students who come to school without having eaten breakfast. As I'm



sure you are aware, breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It gives our students the energy they need to make the most of learning opportunities while at school and participate in all activities to the best of their ability.

7 – 9 News

Dear parents and Carers,

The end of Term 1 is almost here and although it has been a shorter term we can happily report that it has been a great learning term for all of our students. Classes have been settled since the start of the year and students have been engaged in their learning. Many of the home group classrooms have student work on display of the wonderful learning students have been involved in.

With the introduction of the 10 minute home group sessions each morning and the new pathways curriculum with the home group teacher, students have participated in getting to know you activities, mindfulness and positive thinking. We hope the success of these home groups will continue in Term 2 and lead onto more fun and engaging activities. These activities are designed to assist our students with relationships, safe social media interactions, personal development and career and future work pathways.

This year it has been also pleasing to see our students adhere to our uniform policy and the statewide mobile phone ban in all schools. We are very proud of the mature attitude and way in which the majority of our students have adapted to the restrictions.

Despite the uncertainty of the current world situation, we hope that all our families stay safe and we look forward to an equally progressive Term 2.

Sofia Mougos

Assistant Principal Yr 7-9

Year 7 Science

The 2020 year 7s have really settled well in science, working hard scientifically. They have been doing a variety of activities especially obtaining their individual Bunsen Burner licence.



While working in teams, they have been practising skills needed to plan, conduct and report different experiments as well as taking adequate measures to keep it safe in the science laboratory.



10 – 12 News

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you are aware the school holidays are almost here and the advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer is that schools continue to remain open. This advice is regularly under review and we will update you if it changes.

Your child's education, learning and wellbeing is and will continue to be our main priority. We are trying our best to keep everything at school 'business as usual', and the expectations for our students has not changed. Faced with the unknown we are putting in a number of plans to ensure learning is available to all.

Parents should be able to find all the information, news and updates via the Laverton P-12 College website <https://www.lavertonp12college.vic.edu.au/> From there you will able to follow the schools Facebook

page, access Compass and all the latest advice and information regarding News and Events.

The students have all been shown how to access Compass from home and teachers are in the process of putting up lessons and tasks within Compass. Parents can also access Compass from home or on a mobile device and can see what tasks students are being asked to complete.

Please contact the office on 9369 1833 if you do not know your username and password.

The students in years 10-12 have made a smooth start to the year. They have been settled and working hard given they are getting to the business end of their schooling. The new year 10 Pathways program has been welcomed and has started early, getting the Year 10 students to think about options for the following two years and beyond.

The VCAL students have been working on a local Walkability project while the VCE students have started sitting their School Assessed Coursework (SACs). It is very important for parents to be aware that attendance is extremely important for success in completing VCE. Apart from it being difficult for students to learn if they are not in class, the teachers need to be able to see the students completing work and talk directly with the kids to gauge their understanding of topics and concepts. We have discussed some really great ideas with teachers that should see the VCAL students doing more hands-on work and project-based learning.

You may have noticed some signage out the front of the school and gym that the Department of Education has put up. The exciting bit is that it states the gym will reopen during Term 2. I must thank staff, students and parents for their patience and understanding while we have been working to get this sorted out.

WELLBEING

We are well aware that some people in our Laverton P-12 College community have heightened levels of concern and anxiety regarding the many impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These thoughts and feelings are normal and understandable. Most adults and children will be able to manage these feelings through being resilient, practising positive coping skills and good self-care. However, some may feel overwhelmed and unable to adequately express their concerns. This may result in escalated levels of distress or worry.

CONVERSATIONS WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE Families and caregivers of young people should discuss the news of the virus with those in their care in an open and honest way. They should try to relate the

facts without causing alarm, and in a way that is appropriate for their age and temperament. It is important to listen to any questions they may have and to let them know that they are safe and that it's normal to feel concerned. If the media or the news is getting to be too much for them, encourage them to limit their exposure.

RESOURCES

A range of key resources, including videos and tips for young people, have been collated here to help promote ongoing wellbeing and good health across the community:

The Department of Education and Training information page:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

The Department of Health and Human Services information page:

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

SPECIAL REPORT: Coronavirus – Dr Michael Carr-Gregg developed this video for parents and school staff:

https://schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-coronavirus

How to talk to your children about the coronavirus – ABC News article:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-04/how-to-talk-to-children-about-coronavirus/12020324>

Worried about your child getting coronavirus? Here's what you need to know – The Conversation article:

<https://theconversation.com/worried-about-your-child-getting-coronavirus-heres-what-you-need-to-know-131909>

Traumatic events, the media and your child – This Emerging Minds fact sheet provides guidance on how to support and reassure children during ongoing media coverage of COVID-19.

<https://d2p3kdr0nr4o3z.cloudfront.net/content/uploads/2018/09/11091906/Disasters-the-Media-and-Children.pdf>

Beyond Blue offers a wide range of National help lines and websites

Kids Help Line – available to any student at any time, including via the phone (1800 55 1800), email counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au, or online chat.

If you find that your son/daughter is experiencing anxiety beyond what you consider to be normal, please encourage them to seek support from one of our College counsellors.

Please stay safe over the break and regularly check into the school website for the latest news and updates.

Paul Young

Assistant Principal Year 10-12

LITERACY

The children have enjoyed some fun and informative reading for story-time in the library this term



COLLECTING SUNSHINE by Rachel Flynn and Tamsin Ainslie

THROUGH THE SMOKE by Phil Cummings



New Clubs

Tuesday "Lounge"

Tuesday Lunch Time Years 7-12 in the Library fun activities for all to enjoy run by the Wellbeing team

Health and Wellbeing

DOCTORS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS PROGRAM

What is the Doctors in Secondary School Program?

It's a Victorian Government initiative to make sure young people are getting the health support, advice and treatment they need so they can reach their full potential. This means bringing the Doctors to the students who are in most need. [Laverton P-12 College](#) is one of over 100 Victorian government schools to be selected to participate!

Our local IPC Health Clinic is providing the medical service at our school. The Doctor's name is **Dr Vesna** and she is supported by **Nurse Stacey**. They can be found in the portable near Explore & Science/Art Classrooms.

The clinic at Laverton is being coordinated by **Timna Dunn** (School Psychologist/ Wellbeing) and supported by **Michelle Hyinson** (School Health Promotion Nurse).

My Clinic is open every THURSDAY

Appointments with **Dr Vesna** are scheduled from **9:15am to 12:45pm**. Our practice **Nurse Stacey** is onsite to **3pm** to support students, participate in health promotion activities in classes & make appointments with students who drop into the Clinic during recess & lunch.

The Clinic is closed during school holidays

Who can visit the Doctor?

Any student enrolled in Secondary School. Sorry the service is not available to primary school students, teachers or the family members of the students. To support students to attend appointments they are welcome to bring a family member or friend along to their appointment.

Does the Student need their parent/carer's consent to see the Doctor?

In supporting students to access the GP they should have the opportunity to make appointments

confidentially. The GP will assess if a young person is a mature minor with respect to the issue for which they are seeking medical treatment. If the GP decides the student is not a mature minor and the student wants to pursue treatment, their parents/carers will be informed so that their consent is sought prior to commencing treatment. Information about consent and confidentiality can be found at: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/Consent%20and%20confidentiality%20policy%20%28Revised%20-%20May%202017%20version%29.pdf>

Does it cost to see the Doctor?

The GP will bulk bill consultations through Medicare, so there are **no expenses** for the Student or their parent/carer. The student doesn't need to bring a Medicare card as the Clinic can access this information.

How can student's make an appointment with the Doctor?

Students can make an appointment with either **Timna Dunn, Josh Whelan** (Wellbeing) or **Michelle Hynson** (School Health Promotion Nurse) or drop in during recess or lunchtimes.



Dr Vesna (left) and Nurse Stacey (right)

Free Sanitary Items in Schools:

The Victorian Government has committed to funding \$20.7 million over four years to provide free sanitary pads and tampons in every government school because being able to access sanitary products shouldn't be a barrier for students to getting the most out of their education.

The Government's commitment to provide free pads and tampons in government primary, secondary and specialist schools will:

- Provide students with the confidence that there will always be sanitary items available at school
- Relieve students of any stigma, anxiety or discomfort associated with menstrual hygiene management so they can focus on their studies
- Ease the cost of living for families

For some students getting a period can cause inconvenience, frustration and embarrassment – especially if it starts unexpectedly at school. Sanitary items are a necessity, not a luxury, and the free sanitary pads and tampons in public schools initiative will support tens of thousands of students in schools across the state.

The provision of free sanitary pads and tampons in all Victorian public schools commenced in late 2019 with the installation of dispensing machines in a minimum of one school bathroom. The use of sanitary items provided at school will be entirely voluntary. Providing both sanitary pads and tampons allows students to make a choice based on their own needs, cultural beliefs, maturity and preferences.

Schools will play an important role in promoting a positive culture around menstrual health and build a supportive environment among the school community. We have already completed the presentation about Menstrual Health and Hygiene to students in Grade 6 through to Year 12.

Additional information about speaking with your child about positive menstrual health include:

- How to talk to your teen about periods (suitable for 9 – 15 years) The Australian Parenting Website- <https://raisingchildren.net.au/pre-teens/development/periods-hygiene/periods>
- Periods- having a period- Kids Health- Womens and Children's Health Network (SA)- <http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetailsKids.aspx?p=335&np=289&id=1818>
- Periods- Jean Hailes- <https://www.jeanhailes.org.au/resources/periods-fact-sheet>
- Yarning about periods- Jean Hailes for Women's Health- https://assets.jeanhailes.org.au/Fact_sheets/Yarning_about_periods.pdf
- Girls with autism: preparing for periods- The Australian Parenting Website- <https://raisingchildren.net.au/autism/development/physical-development/periods-and-autism>

Chatter Time SCHOOL READINESS 3-5 year old School Readiness Playgroup

Friday 9:15-10:45am (Inspire Building)

STARTING FRIDAY 20th MARCH

Is your child between the ages of **3-5 years?**

Come join our school Speech Pathologist, Olga & Occupational Therapist, Tayla on a **Friday morning** for **FREE** fun filled school readiness structured activities. Activities focus on spoken language, comprehension, literacy, social language, gross and fine motor skills, & confidence.

All activities are explained, modelled and done in a group with parent involvement. Activities are easy to do at home to assist in consolidating concepts and continue their learning.

***A parent/guardian must attend with a child (other siblings are welcome to attend)**

*Please bring a healthy snack, water bottle & hat

For further details & to register please contact Tayla or Olga at Laverton College. Limited spots available!

Quantin-Binnah Vacation care

Applications for Term 1 Vacation care can be made
Please contact by phone number supplied below or email

Contact : 03 97425040

admin@qbcc.org.au

SWPB Parent Information

WHAT IS SWPB ?

SWPB stands for School-wide Positive Behaviour. This is a whole school approach to creating an environment, which encourages effective learning through the development of a positive, calm and welcoming atmosphere. Social skills and socially acceptable behaviours are all part of the learning process. It aims to create a positive school climate, a culture of high expectations and a supportive and inclusive environment for learning

Why SWPB?

By implementing SWPB within our school it provides a consistent approach in expectations across P-12. It will help establish safe and inclusive learning environments where individual behaviour for learning supports are catered and supported for.

How will we achieve this?

The SWPB Matrix has been developed for teachers and students to identify expected behaviours. This behaviour matrix outlines the expected behaviours across the different areas of our school community. All students and staff will use the matrix as a point of reference in discussing behavioural expectations. The

matrix is displayed in all learning spaces and in the official school diary.

Our neighbourhood

On Thursday the 5th March the creek turned into a river



Careers

Please check our school career website for access to all things related to careers and the world of work. There are a range of activities and links available to explore, including self - exploration and interest quizzes.

www.lavertonp12collegecareers.com

MY CAREER PORTFOLIO



Year 9 Career Education Program My Career Insights

A reminder to parents/guardians of all Year 9 Students, please sign and return the permission forms to enable your child to participate in the My Career Insights Program. This program is independently run within the school and is a valuable program in assisting students to identify their traits and interests. Upon the completion of testing, students will participate in a one on one interview with a qualified career practitioner to interpret their results.

Important Update: Due to the COVID 19 Virus, the Year 10 Work Experience Program scheduled for the 11th - 15th May 2020 has been

Cancelled

“I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, I do and I understand.” Confucius

NOTE TAKING IN CLASS

Efficient note taking is an essential skill in a productive study program.

Always use the **80/20 rule**.

80% active engaged listening and **20%** note taking.