Welcome!

A very warm welcome back to all of our Junior School families, especially those new to the College. As this article is written, we are eagerly anticipating the first day of classes - always an exciting time as students settle into their new rooms.

Last week the home group teachers had the opportunity to spend an hour with each student where they could connect personally and also undertake some assessments. These assessments assist in ensuring that work is set at the exact standard from the outset of the school year. In 2014, we continue to have a focus on data driving our instruction and informing our practice.

This year we consolidate the foundations that have been set in Mathematics and Spelling and will have a strong focus on reading comprehension. The pastoral care program has been revised with a values based approach being adopted and the role of classroom circles being emphasised. This fits perfectly with the College theme of “We can make the change”.

We continue to emphasise the importance of developing organisational skills across all year levels. This includes neat book work, tidy lockers, pride in our classrooms and the importance of dating work in order to keep personal track of progress. A small way parents can assist us is by ensuring all books (including student diaries) are kept free of stickers and graffiti and reinforcing the value of personal organisation skills.

Late last year we were delighted to announce our new Junior School leaders for 2014. They are:

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<tr>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Kiana Dimovski</th>
<th>Keiya Osumi</th>
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<tr>
<td>Vice-Captain</td>
<td>Kayla Cesarios</td>
<td>Michael Murra</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curie House</td>
<td>Sofia Luppino</td>
<td>Emmanuel Parissis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curie Vice</td>
<td>Katherine Koroneos</td>
<td>Liam Armstrong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edison House</td>
<td>Chelsea Hunt</td>
<td>Ben Frewen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edison Vice</td>
<td>Miah Setiawan</td>
<td>Mason Sykes</td>
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These students will be presented with their badges at our first assembly on the 24th of February. We are very much looking forward to watching these students and all of our Year 4s develop into confident leaders. Please note, Junior School assemblies commence at 2.30 pm and parents are welcome to attend. There are two in Term 1 - 24th February and 24th March. Some other relevant dates to note for Term 1 are:

- The Information Evening on 10th February at 7pm. This is a most important opportunity to become acquainted with 2014 class routines, curriculum and specialist subjects.
- Prep picnic on the 17th of February at 5.30pm. Prep parents are encouraged to come along to our Prep Picnic which is being held at school in the grassed area at the front of the Year 1 classrooms on the valley side of the building (BYO Picnic). This is a fantastic opportunity for parents to begin to make connections with others new to the College. The picnic is generally concluded by 6.30 - 7pm as tired children head to home to rest for another busy school day.
- Parent Teacher Interviews on the 18th and 20th of March
- Celebration of Learning morning on Thursday the 27th of March

These dates are all published in the diary, however it is always worthwhile keeping an eye on Whispers for all upcoming events.

A timely reminder to parents to follow the car parking routines established last year. In the mornings, the road nearest the Junior School is used as a ‘drop off’ loop which worked very well in the mornings. In the afternoons it is imperative that vehicles are not left unattended in the drop-off zone and there is definitely no double parking allowed. Drivers must wait at the entrance to this area until another car exits. The safety of our students is of the utmost importance. I encourage parents to park on the Old Calder Highway and spend a few minutes walking down Overnewton Road rather than adding to traffic congestion. The Walking School Bus is also a fantastic option.

It is important for families to reset meeting points now that students have changed classrooms. The plaza at the entrance and the amphitheatre proved to be popular spots to meet last year. Parents are reminded not to wait in internal areas at the end of the day due to the volume of students moving out of the building.

Last week parents received information from the College about uniform. Please take careful note of the reference to
shoes being lace up school shoes (not black sport type shoes) and earrings being plain circular stud or sleeper with no stones. We appreciate the support of parents in ensuring our uniform looks its best at all times.

The Junior School team is very much looking forward to a sensational and busy 2014 as we continue to strive to deliver the best possible learning experiences in a positive and supportive environment.

Anne McNaughton
Head of Junior School-Keilor Campus

JUNIOR SCHOOL - KEILOR CAMPUS
COMING EVENTS Term 1, 2014

Term 1 Summer Uniform and Hats
5th to 7th February
Prep early finish 8.50am - 12.30pm

Friday 7th February
Chapel Prep to Year 2, 1.40pm - 2.15pm
Chapel Years 3 and 4, 2.45 - 3.20pm. Sports and Performing Arts Building, Assembly Hall - Rev Kim Hosting
Year 4 Swimming Trials 10.30am - 1.30pm

Monday 10th February
Keilor Campus Welcome Assembly 9.00am - 10.00am
Junior School Information Evening 7.00pm Assembly Hall

10th to 14th February
Prep early finish 8.50am - 2.15pm

Thursday 13th February
Keilor Campus Class Photos

Friday 14th February
Chapel Prep to Year 2, 1.40pm - 2.15pm
Chapel Years 3 and 4, 2.45 - 3.20pm. Sports and Performing Arts Building, Assembly Hall - Class Hosting to be advised

Monday 17th February
Prep regular hours commence 8.50am - 3.20pm
Keilor Campus Prep Picnic - 5.30pm