Middle School Student Leaders 2015

We wish the following Year 8 students well for their time as leaders within the Middle School.

**Middle School Captains**
Taylors Lakes Campus: Amanda Lis and Lachlan Coyne
Keilor Campus: Akshat Chopra and Tegan Lam

**Middle School Vice Captains**
Taylors Lakes Campus: Isabella Halil and Billy Tzimos
Keilor Campus: Farrah Davis and Ryan Metz

**Middle School SRC Leader**
Taylors Lakes Campus: Kavinya Bendarage
Keilor Campus: Stefanie Georgeallis

**Middle School Chapel Captain**
Taylors Lakes Campus: Jamie Markovski
Keilor Campus: Jason Lintenbrink

**Middle School House Leaders 2015**

**Curie Captains**
Year 8 Middle School Camp Program

The Middle School Camp Program aims to provide students with a sound foundation for future experiences within the College’s Camp Program through the development of sequential knowledge and skills. Overall, the program at Middle School aims to:

- Support and extend student learning in relation to the Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Outdoor Education, and in Year 5 the Australian Curriculum: History.
- Provide opportunities for students to discover more about themselves and others, encouraging students to build relationships with their peers and staff.
- Promote the lifelong interpersonal skills of resilience, self-esteem, self-management, resourcefulness, independence, leadership, communication, teamwork, judgement, cooperation and tolerance.
- Promote access to and engagement in the outdoor environment, which enables students to develop their...
understanding of, and affinity for, the natural world.

- Provide skills and knowledge that may lead to a lifelong involvement in leisure pursuits.

The **Year 8 Outdoor Education Camp** for both Middle Schools will be at the **YMCA Howman’s Gap** site. Howman’s Gap is located close to Falls Creek and more information on the camp can be found at [www.camps.ymca.org.au](http://www.camps.ymca.org.au).

**Dates for the Year 8 Camp**

- **Keilor Campus:** Monday April 27 to Friday May 1
- **Taylors Lake Campus:** Monday May 4 to Friday 8

Some of the activities that students will be participating in include a night under canvas, hiking, mountain bike riding and the high ropes course. **Your child is encouraged to practice their bike riding before the camp in order to take full opportunity of the activities offered.**

Essential equipment that your child may not have taken on camp previously includes: a thermal t-shirt, beanie, gloves, waterproof jacket and good quality sleeping bag for the overnight bushwalk.

All sleeping bags are rated in celsius degrees to give you a guide on what climate they will suit, for example: a zero degrees celsius is rated at zero degrees celsius. Your child’s sleeping bag should ideally have a zero degrees celsius rating. A sleeping bag liner (which can be an old sheet cut and sewn to shape) keeps the inside of the sleeping bag clean, and adds a degree or two to the warmth of the sleeping bag. If you do not have access to a good quality sleeping bag it is possible to hire one from a variety of camping supply shops such as:


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**Stile in the Middle School**

Has your child shown you Stile?

Using Stile, teachers plan and build lessons, share media and content, track the completion of tasks by their students and provide feedback on tasks. Students can log in from anywhere, on any device, or, use the Stile app to access their class materials, submit responses, participate in class discussions and upload files of work for their teacher. Teachers in the Middle School are using Stile and we encourage you to ask your child to show you how they manage their learning and use Stile. In many instances if you are going on a family holiday or your child is unwell, your child will be able to follow and complete the the class work.
Further information is available at the Stile website.

**Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge**

**It’s on again in 2015!**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is not a competition, it is a challenge to each student to read, read more, and read more widely. The aim of the Challenge is to foster a love of reading. The Challenge will commence mid-February and finish late August. It is open to all students from Prep to Year 10.

Students in Years 5 to 8 are challenged to read 15 books. Ten or more books are to be chosen from the Premier’s Reading Challenge booklist. The booklist includes picture books, fiction and non-fiction books. A copy of the booklist can be found in the library, in the classroom, or on the Challenge website. Students will be responsible for keeping an online record of their reading on the Challenge website. Students will be assisted with this if required. While the Overnewton Library can provide many of the books on the Challenge booklist, demand may be high and so a trip to the local library to source books may be necessary.

Students who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement from the Premier of Victoria and have their name published on the Premier’s Reading Challenge Honour Roll, with parental permission.

If you would like more information about the Premier’s Reading Challenge visit the website or access the link from the Middle School Library pages on the Library site on the Intranet.

**Big Science Competition**

**Do you have a child who is interested in Science and loves a challenge? Why not encourage them to enter the Big Science Competition?**

Suitable for students of all abilities, the Big Science Competition is an international competition comprising a one hour paper of 30 multiple-choice questions. The questions are aligned with the Australian curriculum and are designed to challenge students to think critically and solve scientific problems using everyday examples.

There are three paper levels based on the Australian school years:

- Junior (Years 7 and 8)
- Intermediate (Years 9 and 10)
Senior (Years 11 and 12)

Everyone who takes part in the Big Science Competition goes into a draw to win iTune and movie vouchers. All students receive a certificate to recognise their achievement and a report detailing their performance. Top performers may be invited to take part in the Australian Science Olympiad Competition or the Asian Science Camp.

The Big Science Competition will take place at school between 20th to 27th May. Dates for testing will be arranged between the participating student and Vicky Hantzis, Head of Senior School Science.

Want to know more? Go to the Australian Science Innovations website or email Vicky Hantzis.

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**Scholastic Book Club Ordering**

**LOOP** is the new Scholastic Book Club's Linked Online Ordering and Payment platform for parents. If you want to pay by credit card for your online book club order, this new platform makes it easy. It eliminates the need for paper order forms and your order is submitted safe and sound.

Log in to the Scholastic website or download the new iPhone and iPad app from the App Store.