College Principal’s Report

It was wonderful to welcome back all our students for the start of a new school year. Students spent time with their Home Group Teacher or Mentor, attended a Year level assembly, received their timetables and lockers. By Period 3 all students were settled into class and the education program was underway. Indeed it was the smoothest start to the school year I can recall. This is testament to the team of staff who toiled away to ensure everything was in place for the beginning of the new school year.

I commend the Newsletter to students and staff as it is the best way to stay informed about key dates and important developments at the College. The Newsletter is handed to Year 7-10 students each Friday and is also posted on the VCE App and College website.

I would like to highlight the College’s information technology initiatives for 2015. The College is fortunate to have been selected to participate in the New Pedagogies for Deep Learning Global Partnership. What is the purpose of the partnership? “Students across the globe will be engaged in deeper level learning and provided the skills to be lifelong learners, creative, connected and collaborative problem solvers who can successful participate and innovate in our increasingly interconnected world”. This will go hand in hand with our 1:1 Computer Program. There has been significant time, money and energy put into ensuring that our IT infrastructure will support the introduction of 1:1 devices at Year 7 and 10 and optional at Year 11/12.

A new portable has arrived and it will be fully refurbished and ready to use in a few weeks. The timeline for its installation was determined by DET. This portable will provide an additional art space which is needed with our growing art program. It can be found behind C1 and C2 and is called A6.

ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL ITEMS

Gleneagles Secondary College provides published workbooks to students as part of the Essential Education Item charge. These books will be delivered to students in the next two weeks. If payment has not been received or a financial arrangement has not been made with the Business Manager, students will not receive these workbooks. To arrange payments of the Essential Education Item, please contact the Bursar’s office on Tel 9708 1319. Payment options include cash, EFTPOS, direct deposit and BPAY.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School photographs will take place on Tuesday, 24th February. Aussie School Photos will take multiple images of each student to provide parents/guardians with more choices and greater value. Order forms and envelopes will be sent home with students two weeks prior to the photo day.

There are three options available when ordering photo packs:

1. Place orders on-line prior to the photo day.
2. Complete the pre-payment order form for your child to hand to the photographer on photo day.
3. You can choose to wait for five working days, then go on-line to view the images at www.schoolphoto.com.au

Further details will be issued in upcoming Newsletters.
**GLENEAGLES HOUSE SPORTS 2015**

This year’s House Sports Carnivals will be held on the following dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWIMMING CARNIVAL</td>
<td>Friday, 27th February</td>
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<tr>
<td>CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL</td>
<td>Friday 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATHLETICS</td>
<td>Friday 24th April</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All students are expected to attend, participate and enthusiastically encourage their fellow House members. The Carnivals are a great opportunity for students of all abilities to participate and have an enjoyable day. Your child has received a House Carnivals’ permission form. This form should be signed and returned to Home Group teachers. Families are most welcome to attend as spectators. If you have any queries, please contact Roxanne Bell, PE Teacher at the College on Telephone 9708 1319.

**Sue Peddlesden, Adele Duffy, Kathie Toth & Paul Thorne**

**YEAR 7 MUSIC INFORMATION NIGHT MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 10th FEBRUARY 2015, 6.30PM**

**VCE STUDY CENTRE (VIA LIBRARY)**

Parents of students wishing to learn a musical instrument this year must attend the important Music Information session on Tuesday, 10th February at 6.30pm (after the Year 7 BBQ) where parents will be able to register their child for music tuition. Gleneagles offers a wide variety of instrumental tuition which includes: flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, french horn, euphonium, piano, singing, drums and guitar. Tuition availability on some instruments is limited and it is therefore important that parents attend the evening to gain as much information as possible prior to selecting an instrument.

Parents will be informed about the associated costs for each of the instruments and are able to receive advice on the most suitable instrument for their child from woodwind and brass instrumental staff who will be available on the night. Further queries can be directed to the Music Director, Zorana Horvat on Tel 9708 1319.

**Ms Horvat, Music Director**

**1:1 COMPUTER PROGRAM 2015 UPDATE**

The uptake by parents for the 1:1 Computer Program has been very high across Years 7 & 10 which is excellent in our first year of the program. There have been four scheduled handouts for devices with two sessions in December, on Wednesday 21st January and Wednesday 28th January. A backlog of orders currently exists which will be filled in the order they were received. If you are yet to place an order for the device please follow the instructions about the 1:1 Computer Program at our website.

These computers will arrive directly at Gleneagles, where they will be re-imaged (software updated and added to the school network) and then distributed to students. Students who have already collected their device in the holidays are asked to bring both their charger and computer to school each day in readiness to be re-imaged. These computers will still be able to use most College resources until they need to be collected (which may occur any day from Friday 30th January until Friday 6th February) for imaging.

Some other important reminders:

- Like the school uniform, the computer, charger, bag and stylus are identical so it is essential that it is easily identified before bringing in to school by using a permanent marker, sticky labels or engraving (please see notes on our website about engraving do’s and don’ts).

- Computers should always remain inside school bags on the way to and from school to ensure they are protected from damage.

- Students will only be permitted to bring to classes slim-line cases, satchels or the approved bags available from EduNet. Students will be required to store their bags safely and securely under the desk with the shoulder strap tucked away so that it is not a tripping hazard for staff or students. In accordance with our bag policy, no back-packs or school-bags will be permitted in any classroom.

- Students are reminded to keep their computer locked in their lockers during break times and during PE & Sport classes.

- Any family who is experiencing financial difficulties is encouraged to speak with Maxine Foster, the Wellbeing Co-ordinator, to explore financial support. Other options such as a take-home layby (Certiqlifypay) accessible through the EduNet portal also provides parents with more easily managed fortnight payments for those who wish to apply.

**Heath McGregor, Leading Teacher – ICT**

**YEAR 7 UPCOMING EVENTS**

Welcome to 2015! The first week of transition for the Year 7 cohort has gone very smoothly. The Year 7 students are starting to navigate their way around Gleneagles quite confidently and are settling into secondary life. There are two important Year 7 events that are fast approaching:

- **Year 7 BBQ**

  As part of the orientation program, Gleneagles Secondary College would like to invite the parents/guardians of all Year 7 students to attend a Welcome BBQ being held on Tuesday, 10th February. Dinner will be provided along with the opportunity to meet and get to know your child’s teachers. The music department will also take the time to showcase some of the musical talent we have here at Gleneagles and give parents the opportunity to talk to the music staff about music lessons.

- **Year 7 Orientation Camp**

  The second event is the Golden Valley Lodges Orientation Camp at Flinders, which will be held from the 2nd - 6th March. Please note that there are limited spots available for the camp, so make sure your forms are returned as soon as possible to avoid the disappointment of missing out. Looking forward to a fantastic year!

**Nick Evans, Matt Neal and Ashlee Chatfield, Year 7 Team Leaders**