Principal’s Report

It has been quite a remarkable term. We began with the Centenary Celebrations, which did so much to highlight the positives of the school and of the St.Arnaud community. The amazing capacity which exits in the community was further highlighted by the response we had to the pilot Year 9 Broader Horizons Program. When we were first putting together the program we were concerned that there would be limited interest and as a result opted for a program which allowed for 6 participants per industry area. Sue Upton, Carmel Young and I had the pleasure of interviewing over 30 applicants yesterday. The quality and calibre of our students was outstanding.

I don’t usually like to put negatives into the newsletter, but there are a few areas I would like to seek your support with. The cold and wet weather has seen some students come to school out of uniform. I would like to seek parental support in helping enforce our uniform policy by ensuring their children do not come to school out of uniform. Having additional items of uniform would help in this regard.

Some students have also come to school with jewellery in their ears which is not acceptable. Spikes for instance pose a hazard not only to the student themselves but to others as well. Again I seek your support in ensuring that your children leave for school properly attired.

Some students are also riding their bicycles and scooters in a dangerous manner on the streets after they leave school. If students are riding bicycles to school they need to have a helmet. Students riding scooters need to do so in a safe manner, paying careful attention to traffic and pedestrians.

Announcements in the recent Federal budget will have a dramatic effect on access and affordability of tertiary education. A key change is the deregulation of tuition fees. Currently, tertiary tuition fees are capped; however, universities will now be able to set their own rate for undergraduate fees. At the same time, the fee subsidy provided to students who gain a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) will be reduced by 20% on average. These changes will not affect current tertiary students until 2020 but will impact all new enrolments.

Students will still be able to defer payment of these fees through the HELP scheme (previously known as HECS); however, the earning threshold at which repayments will commence has been lowered to $50,636. With the median tertiary graduate salary currently being $52,000 many students will commence repaying their debts as soon as they enter the workforce. The interest tied to HELP loans will now also escalate from the current 2.9% to a predicted 6.0%.

Branko Lukic
Principal
It was fabulous to see such a wonderful turnout of parents, staff and students coming together for our Year 7 Family Lunch on Tuesday of this week. This was part of the Wimmera Uniting Care's Stronger Families - Stronger Communities focus and it was particularly pleasing to know the wonderful support that you and your families are willing to provide to the school. Hopefully your students understand and are grateful for this support of their education.

Thankyou to the parents who filled in the survey - I have collated responses for staff and we discussed these responses this week. I am very appreciative of parents who have stated that they are willing to assist in some of our classes and I will be contacting you early next term to discuss this assistance. Thanks again!

All staff who attended were very happy to chat with parents and grandparents and they too were impressed by the turnout. In particular, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Year 7 girls for their assistance in setting up the room, cooking the barbeque and making the platters. They worked very productively and were so happy to have been involved in the preparation and I can only commend their energy.

Photos of the lunch are included below.

Reports - these will be handed out in the first week of Term Three so stay tuned!

Resources - now and in the holidays is the time to quiz your child about their stationery and class equipment that may need to be replenished. In Term Three students will take part in a few new subjects that they have not previously encountered. It is so important that they have binder books for these classes so that they are as organised as possible at the start of the term.

In Term Three we are aiming to involve the students in a self-esteem/confidence building program titled 'Gorgeous Girls'/Brave Boys'. I am aiming to have all boys and girls working in same sex groups with members of the community to enhance their skills, their confidence and their self-esteem. I have not quite finalised this program, but it will basically be held for an hour each week either at school or at one of our community centres beginning in week two once all forms have been returned. There will be a small cost of $2 per week for students' involvement which may cover resources that our sessions will require. You may choose to pay the $20 upfront (preferred method), two $10 instalments or $2 each week. Hopefully this program will further enhance our students' life skills and boost their confidence.

I wish all students and their families a healthy, warm and happy holidays.

**Homework/Events/Subject topics – Year 7**

- English Basics no: 10
- Maths Mates sheets
- Humanities Assignment.

Students should take advantage of this opportunity to revise and improve their times tables, spelling, reading etc over the two week break.

Roxanne Egan (Yr 7 Coord) on 54 951811 or egan.roxanne.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
PARENTS’ CLUB

Meeting Dates 2014 – 7pm at the Botanical Hotel for tea. It would be great to see some new faces, and obtain some fresh ideas on our committee and everyone is welcome to attend.

15th September
10th November
On Tuesday 24th June, a group of students from St Arnaud SC travelled to Longrenong to the Western Victorian Careers Expo.

The Expo offered a broad range of career and course information as well as interactive opportunities including the ‘Try A Trade’ section, where students could have a hands-on experience trying out various trades, including Landscape Gardening, Electrical, Plumbing and Hairdressing. A few of our girls lined up for the free hairstyling!

There were over 50 exhibitors from all industries, not just agriculture as you might expect at Longrenong.

For example, there was a tent set up as a nightclub so students could try everything from using lighting equipment to DJ tools for careers in entertainment and event management.

There was a large display from RMIT about video games design, one of the fastest growing industries in the world. Students could sit at powerful computers and experience 3D modelling of industry-standard quality.

Chris Humphrey (ABC3) was also presenting during the day, informing students about careers in zoo-keeping, wildlife management and husbandry. Students could handle giant snakes, dingoes, koalas and even a crocodile.

Every major university had an exhibit as well. Senior students intending on going to university next year received so much information they almost needed a wheelbarrow to take it all away! Similarly, the emergency services and defence forces had great displays of their equipment and vehicles.

Finally, there were interactive displays of all the agriculture careers that Longrenong offers.

Thousands of students from all over Western Victoria attended the event; it really was impressive and certainly the largest such event to be held outside of Melbourne.

The students who attended from St Arnaud were: Ben Lloyd; Bronte Harris; Jade McIntyre; Indiana Abbott; Montana Ferguson; Michaela Ward; Kayla Walker; Jordan Harris; Tim Smith; Taylor Amos; Jordan Harris; Alysha Dodd; Rachel McIntyre; Casey Medlyn; Nick Birthisel; Linley Gregory; Eric Woolett; Damien Grinsell and Michael George.

Michaela said of the day: “I’m interested in video game design, and it was great to get all the information I needed to explore the industry”.

Every student from St Arnaud got something out of the day. Next year, do not miss the opportunity to go and see what’s out there in the big wide world!
# 2014 Netball Victoria Regional Clinics

Join Netball Victoria’s coaches to learn some new tips & skills and receive some great giveaways.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time &amp; Ages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ARARAT</strong></td>
<td>YMCA Stadium, High Street, Ararat</td>
<td>Thursday 3rd July 2014</td>
<td>10am-12pm / 10-15 years</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HORSHAM</strong></td>
<td>Horsham Lanes &amp; Games, Jenkinson Ave, Horsham</td>
<td>Thursday 3rd July 2014</td>
<td>2:30pm-3:30pm / 5-8 years 3:45pm-5:15pm / 10-15 years</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ST ARNAUD</strong></td>
<td>St. Arnaud Indoor Sports &amp; Squash Stadium, Croi Bowrin &amp; Navarre Streets, St Arnaud</td>
<td>Friday 4th July 2014</td>
<td>10am-12pm / 10-15 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BENDIGO</strong></td>
<td>Flora Hill Indoor Sports Stadium, 56 Ellin Street, Flora Hill</td>
<td>Friday 4th July 2014</td>
<td>3pm-5pm / 10-15 years</td>
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For further information, call 03 9321 2222

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# Freeza Push Start Band Comp

**Battle of the Bands**

Friday August 22

7-10pm $7 entry

**Brighter at Night**

Get your band registered today.

Book by Fri 8th August.

A Drug & Alcohol Free Youth Event ages 12-17

Nexus Youth Centre 14 Pynsent St Horsham Ph 5302 1500

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The Push 25 Years
Term 2

Friday 27th June

Term 3

Monday 14th July
Thursday 17th July
Friday 18th July
Wednesday 23rd July
Thursday 31st July
Thursday 7th August
Friday 8th August
Wednesday 13th August
Thursday 14th August
Friday 15th August
Monday 18th-22nd August
Monday 25th August
Tuesday 26th
Monday 1st September
Tuesday 9th September
Friday 19th September

Semester 1

Last Day of Term 2. **2.30pm dismissal**

Semester 2

School resumes
SSV Cross Country
Semester One Reports distributed
Year 7/8 Squash State Final
EWH Breakfast
AUST Maths Comp
Adidas Fun Run
Interim Reports Distributed
Boys State Hockey
NCD Golf
Winter Sport
Year 9 Enviro Week
Parent Teacher Interviews
Immunisations
Year 12 Relay 4 Life
NCD Athletics
Last day of Term 2.30 dismissal