Principal’s Report

I would like to ask parents and members of the community to assist us by not parking in front of the small gate in Smith Street. During wet and inclement weather it is in the interest of our students that this area remains clear.

Individual NAPLAN results for students in years 7 and 9 have been mailed home to families. Please take time to go over these and to discuss them with your child. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact your child’s year level coordinator.

A further reminder to parents and visitors to the college that you need to report to the office, where the office staff will address your needs. Whilst we welcome and encourage visitors to the school, schools are not public places and we are required to know who is on school premises.

All of you no doubt want to know more about what’s happening every day in our school to help prepare your child for the future. Things like what’s happening in the classroom, what your children are learning and what you can do at home to help. The following is from a department information sheet about years 7 and 8.

In years 7 and 8, your child will be coming to terms with the move from primary to secondary school. In secondary school there are new friends to make, new rules and responsibilities to learn, and new challenges to face.

The move to secondary school is often linked to your child developing a stronger sense of identity, while recognising that their peers become a very important part of their lives.

In the classroom...

Your child will continue to be provided with the opportunity to explore their learning in the eight learning areas of the curriculum: English, maths, science, health and physical education, languages, humanities including history, geography, civics and citizenship, and economics and business, the Arts, technologies including design technologies and digital technologies.

They will also be challenged within the general capabilities included in the curriculum, these being critical and creative thinking, ethical and intercultural understandings, and personal and social capabilities.
The students are exposed to more complex content and concepts, while extending their learning to more national and international places, people, events and issues. They are presented with more problem solving activities requiring the application of knowledge and skills and justifying positions, not merely repeating facts and figures.

**Students at this stage...**

- increase literacy and numeracy skills to a more sophisticated level
- build depth to their existing knowledge and skills in all areas of learning
- move from factual to conceptual – exploring ‘big ideas’
- become more aware of managing themselves and their interactions with others
- participate in physical activities to refine basic and complex motor skills and support participation in games, activities and sports

**What you can do...**

- you can help your child think about what it means to be in this new environment and support them as they meet new challenges
- work with your child and their teacher to develop personal goals that encourage and extend your child’s learning
- ask your child’s teachers to show you what they are covering in class each semester or term. This will give you a good overview of what your child will be learning and support discussions at home about what they are enjoying and finding more challenging
- talk to your child about the topics, themes and areas they are currently being taught in their classes
- be aware of any home learning tasks that are set and encourage your child to complete these tasks.

It is important to remember that each child is different; some may find parts of their learning program more challenging than others.

Speak with your school if you have any questions about what your child is learning and how they are progressing.

Branko Lukic—Principal
**** Year 7 News ****

Last week in our Year 7 Health program, ‘Brave Boys/Gorgeous Girls’, our female students participated in a fitness program at the gym, whilst the boys took part in a team-building activity. The girls really enjoyed the opportunity to use all of the gym equipment and then run through a 20 minute boxing session where they showed excellent coordination. I was particularly impressed by their motivation for the fitness activities and their continual encouragement of one another. The boys participated in a team fire-building and cooking challenge. Working in groups of four they had to build a fire, complete a risk assessment, cook sausages and marshmallows thoroughly and then extinguish their fires, all whilst being judged by Mr Lukic, Garry and Mr Cornwell. All three staff were impressed with most of the fires built and particularly enjoyed the sausages afterwards. The winning team’s fire was the safest, smallest and had the most well-cooked sausages. Well done to all the boys involved. Pictures are included.

REMINDER – DIARY SIGNING – IT IS VITAL THAT YOU ARE SEEING YOUR CHILD’S DIARY EVERY WEEK!!!

On Wednesday the NCD School Athletics were held in Charlton. We had a number of students who qualified for this level; Nick Myers, Jack Davidson, Charlie Ferguson, Jake Male, Jake Busuttil, Shai Clohesy and Tarryn Goodman (who couldn’t compete due to illness). Well done to all of these students who represented the school in a very positive manner.

Next week is our last week of school for Term Three. Could you please ask your child about their current status on English Basics homework and Maths Mate sheets as there are currently some students who have many tasks outstanding.

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

**English Basics** – Unit 13 English Basics unit (should be completing). Spelling words practice.

**Humanities** – Rainforest Thinkers Keys tasks (students have lots of work to complete)

**Science** – Renewable Resources Task

**Maths Mate Term 3 Week 9**

Roxanne Egan (Yr 7 Coord) on 54 951811 or roxanne.egan@edumail.vic.gov.au
7A WOODWORK MANNEQUINS

7A students have completed their wooden mannequins for their major project in Woodwork this term. The students have been introduced to a range of hand tools including rulers, squares, tenon saws, coping saws, chisels, files and screwdrivers. They have used equipment such as portable drills, sanding machines, a pedestal drill and the pyrography pen. They have used these tools and equipment to carry out a range of processes such as measuring, cutting, shaping, drilling, sanding and decorating. The final product has been sanded, varnished and presented for assessment.

Rehearsal for Mannequin Idol

Mannequins on the Bus
Melbourne Zoo and GTAC excursion - Year 12 Biology - TIGER TALES

We brought a little bit of the country with us, with a brisk and unobstructed flow of morning traffic delivering the year 12 biology students promptly to the Zoo’s entrance. Through use of rather hi tech laser pointers and Power Points, the biology students were lectured and en-

learn about the breeding programs used by the zoo to extinguish the chances of subspecies crossing genes. The critically endangered status of tiger species, due to deforestation of their natural environment for the creation of Palm oil, has caused zoos around the world to organise arranged mating’s between animals to prevent them from going into extinction. This also allows the species to retain its genetic diversity.

After a behind the scenes session with the tigers, students learnt about the inbreeding of Siberian White tigers and the disturbing effects of the close crossing of the offspring. Students then travelled to the Gene Technology Access Centre (GTAC) where they studied the DNA of different subspecies of tiger and compared the genetic mutations that account for the divergence of the subspecies.
WHITE TIGERS

The ONLY way to produce a tiger or lion with a white coat is through inbreeding brother to sister or father to daughter; generation after generation after generation. The kind of severe inbreeding that is required to produce the mutation of a white coat also causes a number of other defects in these big cats.

The same gene that causes the white coat causes the optic nerve to be wired to the wrong side of the brain, thus all white tigers are cross eyed, even if their eyes look normal. They also often suffer from club feet, cleft palates, spinal deformities and defective organs.

The white coat is a double recessive gene so most of the cubs born through this inbreeding have normal coloring but they too suffer the same defects and are referred to in the trade as “throw away tigers.” As such, they are often killed at birth because only the white tigers are the big money makers.

And because none of these cats are purebred (they are all crosses between Bengal tigers and Siberian tigers), they serve no conservation purpose.
Ambulance Victoria’s Medical Emergency Program for Schools

Ambulance Victoria’s Secondary School Program is a 50 minute program designed for secondary school students. The program is best supported by a comprehensive whole school approach to promoting health and well-being. The aim of the program is to build confidence and capacity of secondary school students to recognise and manage a medical emergency.

The Secondary School Program

- is set within the context of risk taking behaviours such as alcohol and drug use; and
- uses student-centred, interactive strategies to progress students’ knowledge, skills and attitudes in recognising a medical emergency; placing the person in the recovery position, calling 000 [triple zero]; administering non certified CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation); and raising awareness of bystander use of defibrillators.

St. Arnaud Secondary College were lucky to have Joel from Ambulance Victoria come to St Arnaud from Melbourne to run this program for our year 9, 10 and 11 students. The students engaged well with Joel and appeared to enjoy the presentation and learnt how to plan and evaluate options for managing situations where their own or others’ health, wellbeing and/or safety may be at risk, including first aid and CPR.

Our new school nurse, Lyndell, will be taking the students for a follow up lesson where they will all get given a special pillow case from Ambulance Victoria that allows them to practice CPR.

Year 10 student Alex Mula and Joel from Ambulance Victoria
SEPTEMBER 11 is RUOK? Day

R U OK? Day is a national day of action to remind all Australians of the importance of asking our mates, colleagues and family "are you ok?" It’s held on the second Thursday of every Septem-

HOW CAN A CONVERSATION CHANGE A LIFE?
Regular, face-to-face conversations can help us to build and maintain strong relationships with friends and family. In turn, research shows that people with these strong relationships are more likely to cope with life’s ups and downs.

If you’re not ok and want some help contact:

East Wimmera Health Service - 5477 2222
Lifeline - 13 11 14
Kids Helpline - 1800 55 1800
Headspace - 03 9027 0100
Beyond Blue - 1300 22 4636
The game that I watched was between the White Thunder and the Blue Bunnies. The score at the end of the first half was 18 to 14 with White leading. The better players for the first half were Toby because he passed the ball off to his team mates and Josh because he made some good steals. Dillon played well as he was always ready to shoot and got the ball down the court easily and Braydn was good as he never gave up. The score at the end of the game was 42 to 29 with White Thunder winning. Kayla, Indi and Sarah showed great team spirit and tried hard to get the ball. Tahla was on fire shooting goals and passing the ball well. Michael, Kira, Sonya and Nicole did a great job and were consistently making leads to get the ball throughout the game.

The game that I watched was between the Red Rovers and Black Magic. Black Magic was leading at half time. Jade McIntyre played well in the first half, as she was sharing the ball and shooting some good goals. Brady Tillig also played well, sharing the ball and trying his best. The score at the end of the game was 40 to 30 with Black Magic winning. Billy Egan played well in the second half, shooting 28 out of 40 points for the team. Stephanie Matthews and Alexis Reid consistently tried hard throughout the game.

The game that I watched was between the Blue Bunnies and the Fluro Flannies. The score at the end of the first half was 14 all. Mia Smith played well in the first half, she really engaged in the game by trying very hard. Damien Grinsell played well and was the main goal scorer for the first half. Sonya Dennis caused many turn overs and played great defensively. Finally, Dillon Baldock scored some very good goals and played great offensively. The score at the end of the game was 28 to 26 with the Blue Bunnies winning. The better players for the second half were Thomas Amos as he put on a lot of defensive pressure, along with Bronte Harris who also put on a lot of defensive pressure. Bradyn did well and was in both offensive and defensive play. Eric Kovac also played well, scoring a couple of goals and played well in attack. Sonya Dennis, Montana Ferguson and Maddy Laferla also played well for their teams, putting the pressure on in the defensive end.

The game that I watched was between the Red Rovers and White Thunder. The score at the end of the first half was 6 to 24 with White Thunder leading. Toby, Rachael and Josh played well in the first half. Toby as she shot lots of goals, Rachael as she was good in defence and Josh as he got a few really good rebounds. The score at the end of the game was 51 to 14 with White Thunder winning. Monique played well in the second half as she received many passes.

Current ladder at the end of Round 7

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SWIM LESSONS
Season 2014/2015

Ages 3+

Northern Grampians Shire Council’s swimming lessons in St Arnaud are taught by qualified AustSwim instructors.

Lessons aim to develop your child’s confidence in the pool and teach water basics. For children who are more confident in the water, swimming lessons can assist with the development of stroke techniques.

Classes run for 30 minutes and children are placed in groups appropriate to their skill level.

The cost per child for each swimming program is $110, which includes 10 lessons.

Dates: The lessons will run during Term 4.

November
    Mon 24th-Thurs 27th

December
    Tues 2nd & Thurs 4th
    Tues 9th & Thurs 11th
    Tues 16th & Thurs 18th

Please register your interest at Northern Grampians Shire Council’s customer service centre in St Arnaud or phone 5495 1500.
**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

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**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?**

Experience another culture, make new friends and improve your language studies at home

**Hosting – An Experience for Life**

Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home

[student exchange](http://www.studentexchange.org.au)

1300 135 331 (cost of local call)

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**Calendar**

**Term 3**

Thursday 11th September  
School Social

Friday 19th September  
Last day of Term 2.30 dismissal
Parents Are Welcome to Attend

Information to Parents

Apart from providing the gift of a lifetime recreation, golf has special qualities that can have powerful and lasting impacts on young people’s self-image, personal development and confidence.

Program Details

- The program will be conducted using equipment and activities designed for children with an emphasis on skill development through a mix of coaching, team games and fun.
- The girls and boys will be trialling Junior Members of our club throughout the program with opportunities for them to play on the course. There is no club fee or obligation on children who are ‘trialling’ junior members.
- No golfing experience is needed. All coaching/practice sessions and activities are conducted by qualified coaches with assistance from experienced club volunteers who are required to have Working with Children Checks.
- Participants in the program are covered by Personal Liability Insurance.

Golf has exciting sporting, personal development and career opportunities but, above all, it is a game of skill and integrity with positive benefits for all who participate.

We invite you to come along at any time and see your child in action. We look forward to meeting you and we have no doubt that your child will have plenty of fun.