Principal’s Report

We are all looking forward to Presentation Night next Tuesday 16th December at 7.30pm where we can celebrate some of our student’s achievements over the year.

Book collection day is Wednesday 21st January.

All students are required to have a diary; it forms the basis of good organisational habits. Considerable time this year has been wasted with students losing keys to padlocks.

Next year we are asking students to use a school provided combination padlock that should overcome many of the problems and issues we have experienced. In order to make this as affordable for parents as possible we are bundling a diary, combination padlock and drink bottle for $15. We ask parents to support us by purchasing these items on book collection day.

Teachers resume duty on Wednesday 28th January.

Only students who are in years 7 and 12 are required at school on Thursday 29th January.

All students are required to be at school on Friday 30th January.

Students travelling by bus will need to leave school at 2.30 on Thursday 18th December to fit in with the revised Primary School times.

Students will be dismissed at 1PM on Friday 19th December.

Once there was a king who summoned all his advisers to meet him before he went to war.
He had fought and won many battles, and wanted his advisers to give him wise advice that would encourage him when he lost, and at the same time, keep his head level when he won.
The advisers came back with several ideas, but they were all rejected by the king. Fearful for their lives, the advisers climbed a very tall mountain to meet with a wise old oracle who lived there. The oracle gave them words of advice for the King.
The next day, the advisers met with the King and presented him with a ring they had made. Inside the ring were four words inscribed in the gold.
The four words were: “This, too, shall pass”.
Just as they did long ago for the King, these four words remind us that every moment will pass. In times of extreme happiness, we need to gently remind ourselves to keep a level head and not be too full of ourselves – for this, too, shall pass.
In a moment of extreme sadness, we can remind ourselves not to stay devastated, or lie awake at night worrying, for this, too, shall pass.
Much of our life is made up of moments that pass by. Worry and regret serve little purpose. Victory and triumph last only an instant.
“Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die.”
As Mother Teresa said, “Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.”
We can say: “This school year has nearly come to an end. Next year has not yet come. We have the holidays to look forward to. Let us enjoy the summer days and refresh ourselves to return next year, ready to begin again.”

Branko Lukic
Principal
Immunisation 2015

Students in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will have received immunisation forms. Parents are asked to fill in the form and return it to the College. **Forms must be returned with the students name and the yes or no section filled in. Please return before the end of the year in the box provided outside the staff room.** Please see Mrs Chapman if you have any queries.
YEAR
7
ORIENTATION DAY
Artist in Residence James Geurts, visited St. Arnaud Secondary College to give a talk to students about the installation he is currently working on.

Part of a Northern Grampians initiative, James and a number of other artists will be working in the town throughout 2015 to create a cultural vision for the township.

James explained that his work is an installation of mixed media works that will become a street museum, titled ‘Watertable’, in the Napier Street shopping area between Landmark and IGA.

His informative presentation recounted his early years, education and sources of inspiration. He also explained the process he employs of drawing and playing with the possibilities associated with accidental discoveries. James explained the importance of being open to ‘accidents’ as he finds them instrumental in working with mixed media.

James also displayed images of his work and touched on his journey in creating them.

During his talk, the students and Art staff were also privileged to be given a ‘sneak’ preview of the installation he has planned for St. Arnaud.

Pictured from left
Belinda Burke and Talia McPhee

If you like to see more of David’s work, go to www.jamesgeurts.com
On Tuesday December 9th, Paul Walshe from ’beyond blue’ gave a presentation to the students in Years 8 to 12.

The students were very attentive and displayed concern for a problem that currently affects 1 in 5 people in Australia.

In fact, most Australians have had some experience with anxiety, depression or a related condition, whether they’ve experienced it themselves or had family, friends or work colleagues go through it. Beyondblue’s work is aimed at achieving an Australian community that understands depression and anxiety, empowering all Australians, at any life-stage, to seek help.

Paul explained the factors that contributed to his own illness and to his recovery process. He also spoke of the importance of seeking help early.

In summing up, Paul requested that students to ask the question ‘Are you OK?’ and to not hesitate to seek further help if they notice someone who appears to be finding life tough.

Pictured –

Paul Walshe, Montana Ferguson & Alex Mula
Calendar

Term 4 Semester 2
Monday 1st—12th December
STEPPING UP PROGRAM
Tuesday 16th
Presentation Night 7.30pm
Friday 19th
Last Day of Term. 1pm Dismissal

2015
Term 1 Semester 1
Wednesday 28th January
Teachers resume duty
Thursday 29th January
Years 7 & 12 resume school
Friday 30th January
All students required at school