# Tallangatta Secondary College Newsletter

Secondary College Big Enough To Deliver, Small Enough To Care.

At Tallangatta Secondary College our main purpose is for all students to establish their place in the global community and to demonstrate personal and educational growth within a challenging, stimulating and innovative learning environment.

We Value: Effort, Integrity, Responsibility, Teamwork, Empathy and Respect with Learning at the centre.

Student Achievement: Student Engagement: Student Wellbeing: Optimise AusVELS and VCE/VCAL outcomes for all students.

Further develop the safe, attractive, cooperative, innovative and stimulating school learning environment for all students. Continue to develop a whole-school approach to student wellbeing (social, emotional, physical & mental) based on collective

responsibility.

Productivity: Targeted use of school resources (human, physical and financial) in order to achieve the desired goals and targets.

## **Principal's Report**

#### **Athletics Sports**

Congratulations to all students on your efforts during the Athletics sports on Thursday last week. It was fantastic to see all students participating, regardless of their athletic ability. The final outcome of the day was evidence that team work, high participation rates and commitment to the day really does pay off. Hume house was again the overall winners and congratulations to our age group champions. Thank you to all staff for their assistance throughout the day, particularly to Mr Hale for his outstanding leadership.

#### **NAPLAN**

NAPLAN assessment for students in Years 7 & 9 will take place next week, from Tuesday 10th May to Thursday 12th May, inclusive. The results from these tests will continue to inform our teaching to ensure we are meeting student's needs. If you have any questions regarding NAPLAN, please contact Jacqui Veal at the College.

#### **Top Blokes**

This week, Year 8 boys and a number of year 10 and 11 students participated in a program called "Top Blokes". Six workshops titled Power & Privilege, Masculinity, Peer Pressure & Risk Taking, Alcohol & Other Drugs and Relationships and Communication were facilitated by members from the Top Blokes Foundation. This program was part of the Youth Services plan which is a partnership between our Col-

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lege and the Towong Shire. We greatly appreciate the Shire's support to run such vital programs for our students.

Richelle Moyle Principal

# **Deposits to TSC Bank Account**

We are receiving regular deposits to the school bank account with the reference 'Tall High School'. As we don't know who this payment is from, we are unable to allocate it the family. If you think you may have made these payments, please contact me at the school office on 02 6071 5000.

Gilly Mason Business Manager

# **Coming Events**

Mon 9th May Work Experience Begins

Tue 10th May Snr Football Wodonga

Mon 16th May TSC Cross Country

Wed 18th May School Council Meeting 6pm
Thur 19th May Top Arts Excursion Melbourne

Thur 19th May Melbourne Zoo Excursion

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# **Assistant Principal's Report**

#### **Work Experience**

All students in Year 10 will be involved in Work Experience throughout next week.

#### **NAPLAN**

All students in Year 7 and 9 will be sitting the National Assessment Planning Literacy and Numeracy Tests during next week. These tests provide key data to the Education Department and the school regarding our student's progress in these two key areas. Parents and the School will be provided with a report regarding their child's performance later in the year.

#### **Attitudes to School Survey**

All students completed this survey last week in an extended Home Group. This survey provides schools with valuable data on students' views of their wellbeing, teaching and learning, and school in general to support school improvement. The data is made available to parents later in the year.

#### **Extended Home Group this Week**

Another two important surveys occur during HG this week.

#### Student Safety Survey.

The aim of the survey was to give the students the chance to anonymously answer questions about their safety at school. Students who are repeatedly named as bullies will be interviewed by the Assistant Principal. We have found this process to be an excellent proactive strategy in minimising bullying behaviour in the school.

### Teacher Effectiveness Survey:

This provides students with an opportunity to reflect on what is working well within their classes and what could also improve. While student responses remain anonymous the class results are provided to teachers. This provides valuable feedback to teachers regarding current practices within their classes.

#### **Bus Travel**

Thanks to parents for persisting with the notes for casual travel on buses to Kiewa/Tangam. We have been able to accommodate most requests for travel. There has been little change in the number of regular passengers travelling on these buses therefore casual travel to the Kiewa/Tangam and Baranduda/Wodonga buses can only be provided with a note on the day. There is no guarantee that a seat is available for casual travel but we will try to accommodate where possible.

For regular bus travellers, please remember that you are require to be at the designated bus stop at least 5 minutes prior to the published departure time.

Duncan Livingstone Acting Assistant Principal

### Later Year's Report

#### Year 12

We are currently entering a period of the year where SACs are dominating the school program for our Unit 3/4 students. It is a timely reminder that in order to maximise their potential, students should be completing homework each and every night. While there is always teacher directed homework such as "complete questions 4 &5 for our next class", it is the revising of work and ensuring that any preparation activities are completed too. This requires discipline on the part of the student but assistance at home by parents can help. This could include;

- Encouragement of their student,
- Ensuring that interruptions to the usual family timetable is kept to a minimum during SACs,
- Ask for a copy of the dates for upcoming SACs and place it in a prominent position for all the family to see

#### Year 11

There are five weeks of formal classes before the unit exams begin in week 9. Students need ensure their priority is to prepare and complete the upcoming SACs. In preparation for the exam period, students need to ensure they have completed all the required work within their subject and set study time aside to revise work that extends back to the beginning of the year. The Unit exam period provides an excellent experience for students to with develop their exam craft in preparation for Year 12.

#### Year 10

Work experience for all Year 10 occurs next week (9-13th May). This is an exciting time for the students. They will be required to complete a range of activities while on work experience that will form part of their assessment on their return to school. The work diary, employer evaluation and the investigation of the particular job being undertaken while on the job. Students are encouraged to take photos to supplement their assignment work. This should only be done where appropriate and with the employers permission. Where possible, the students who are working in the local area will be visited by staff during the latter part of the week. Students working outside the area will be followed up with a phone call from staff to their employer. Should a student fall sick during this week, the employer and the school needs to be informed. In the unlikely event that a student issues in the workplace, where they feel unsafe or threatened, then the College needs to be contacted immediately.

Scott Anderson

### Middle Year's Report

#### **Surveys**

In Middle Years Home Groups this week, students were asked to complete the Teacher Effectiveness Survey which is an opportunity for all students to provide teachers with feedback about their teaching strategies and how this transfers to effective student learning. The students were also required to complete a Student Safety Survey which helps to ensure that our students feel safe in our school environment and provides them with the chance to identify any situations that make them feel unsafe. Students are asked to be as honest as possible so that we have the most accurate information on areas of strength and areas to improve on for the benefit of the students.

### Year 8 & 9 Camps

Year 8 and 9 students have been given information about their respective camps and special programs for week 7 of this term. The school program for year 8 students will be a camp to Howman's Gap from Tuesday 24th-Friday 27th May. The program for year 9 students will involve the ArtsConnect9 Camp to Melbourne from Tuesday 24thThursday -26th May, an excursion to Bonegilla Migrant Camp on the morning of Friday 27th May and a specialized Project2020 program for the afternoon. It is important that all students and parents are aware that regular classes will not run from Tuesday to Friday of this week for year 8 and 9 students and it is highly encouraged that the students participate in their respective programs.

Clothing lists, medical information forms, and special dietary requirements forms for Howman's Gap have been distributed to Year 8 students. Please contact Miss Penny if there are any issues.

#### NAPLAN & Year 8 Health and Wellbeing

The Middle Years students have a very busy week coming up next week. Year 7 and 9 students will be completing the NAPLAN testing on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning. As this has a significant impact on level 1 classes, a special program has been designed for the year 8 students during this time. This program will have a significant focus on Health and Wellbeing. Students will be informed of the program details this week.

Haylee Penny

### **Music Report**

"Life without music is like night without the moon. It is a light to guide you through dark times."

Welcome again to all our loyal readers. You will be pleased to know that we have now elected our music captains for 2016, Steven Howes, Lachy McInerney, Courtney Madsen, Darcy Coulston- Williams, Zoe Isaac and Lochy Tickle. These students will help Mr McKee with the growth and development of the music program as well as the day to day running of the PAC. Towards the end of term, the VCE musicians are going to have a concert in the PAC on the 14th of June at 6pm. The VCE musicians have been working diligently to prepare their songs which, in addition to some wonderful food being supplied, will make for a wonderful and enjoyable evening. In other news, the concert band, choir, training band and jazz band will be putting on an end of term concert on Tuesday the 21st of June. at 6pm, all band and choir students need to attend this important event.

The 2016 Albury Eisteddfod excursion forms have gone home. We encourage every musician to apply even if you enter the beginners section, it is a great experience and you will learn a lot from it. Make sure you fill out the application ASAP.

A reminder to all students, make sure you get to all of your lessons and rehearsals. As soon as you know it the end of term will be here and performances are coming up. Further to this, last week, school was cut short a little with interruptions, so it is crucial that everyone practices at home, you cannot rely on class or band time to practice.

On a final note, we are always on the lookout for new members to join in the bands or start playing a instrument, interested students need to see Mr McKee immediately. The choir is always looking for new people to join, so if you are interested, talk to Mr McKee or the choir teacher Katherine. All students are welcome to join. Any student or teacher is always welcome to come down to the PAC during lunch or recess through the week to play an instrument, have a sing, talk about music or even watch a rehearsal in a friendly, supervised and supportive environment. Just come down and have fun.

As always, I can always be contacted at the College to discuss any questions or concerns regarding the music program.

Steven Howes Rhys McKee
Music Captain Music Program Coordinator

### **Sports Report**

#### **Athletics**

There was an error in the 20 year age group results last week. It should have

read:

*Champions:* Abbie Duncan and Joe Hodgkin *Runners up:* Steph Baker and Jade Webb.

Apologies to those students!

#### **Senior Footy**

Next Tuesday we have our senior boys playing in the O/M competition. On paper they look a fair side—we'll find out! The boys are being coached by Ash Sutherland.

### **Cross Country**

The House Cross Country is on Monday week (16/5). For the year 10 students this will be their first day back after Work Experience, so they need to make a note to come prepared!! This year there will be an additional event. Students have the choice between the run, the bike ride OR a walkathon. This means that all students will be involved in physical activity for this event which is on Monday afternoon. More details next week!

Malcolm Hale

### **MITTAGUNDI**

#### www.mittagundi.org.au

Mittagundi is an Outdoor Education Centre and Pioneer Style Farm set on a stunning 400 acre property in the foothills of the Victorian High Country. Every fortnight a new journey begins as around twenty 14-17 year olds and two Clydesdale horses walk into the property, camping overnight in the mountains. Once there the new friends spend time working together on the farm, fencing, growing food, milking cows, working with wood, steel and wool - all without electricity!

Then embark on adventures rafting the Mitta Mitta River and abseiling off a local cliff face before walking back through the mountains and returning to civilisation.

The atmosphere at Mittagundi is simple, honest and happy. There are no watches, no timetables and no money. Instead there is an opportunity for young people to live and work together in an environment where people matter more than anything else.

#### **DATES**

29th April - 8th May (MIXED) BOOK ONLINE (more dates on website)

### 10 days - \$440pp

Includes all food, gear & accommodation!! Sponsorship available: 14-17 year olds

*To get more info, contact Claire:* 0467 678 818 / info@mittagundi.org.au

### Sister School Visit

With great excitement, we are planning a visit from our Sister School, SMK Datuk Peter Mojuntin, from Sabah, Malaysia!!

Up to 15 students, 5 teachers and a number of parents are planning to visit us in late October and early November. We have an exciting visit planned for them, including spending up to 7 nights with their Host Families.

Yes, we are planning for our visitors to billet with members of our school community!! This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your family to make new friends and show our visitors aspects of our community that makes it special – Australian food, customs, culture, family life and



sporting interests. For a week, your visiting student/ teacher/ parent would join in your family life, and do whatever you would normally do – go to school, to sporting events, to Church, visit friends, etc.

If your family is interested in hosting a student, teacher or parent during this visit, could you please complete the following form and return it to the office by Friday April 29th.

	·
Family name:	
Students at school:	<del></del>
We are interested in being a host for:	
A Student A Teacher	A Parent