Mr Tony Hirst

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2016 school year at Emmaus College. A particularly warm welcome is extended to families who are new to the Emmaus community. In 2016 the Emmaus College Newsletter will again be published every three weeks and emailed to families (it is also available on the College website (under Quick Links).

We would ask all families to take the time to read the Newsletter and also to check the College website to ensure that you are aware of what is happening within the Emmaus College community. The website is regularly updated with important information.

CONDOLENCES

It is with immense sadness that the Emmaus community was informed of the sudden passing of Lachlan James (Year 10 2016). Lachlan passed away peacefully in his sleep on Thursday, 14 January.

Lachlan’s death came as a complete shock. Lachlan was a very popular student and good-natured young man who had a real passion for music - as demonstrated by his regular guitar performances at school events.

Hundreds attended the Requiem Mass on Thursday, 21 January at St Jude’s Scoresby. The eulogies at the Mass certainly outlined Lachlan’s care and consideration for others.

We ask that you please keep Lachlan’s family and his many friends in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Our College counsellors are available to assist students who are struggling with the unexpected passing of Lachlan.

NEW FACES IN 2016

This year we welcome nine new teaching staff to the College:

- Catherine Ryan – Biology, Health, Science, PE
- Jayden Cox – 9 Maths, 9 PE, 9 Mind & Body
- Amy Witorz – Art
- Christian Stuckey – Science, Biology
- Anthony Quon – 9 English, 9 Humanities, 9 Mind & Body
- Marianne Hegyesi – History, 10 Economics
- Freda Pahomis – English Language Support, English
- Emilia Da Silva – Languages, RE
- John Collins – Director of Music

Helen Phillips will be replacing Denise McCann while she is on LSL for 8 weeks.

We also welcome the following non-teaching staff:

- Ellie Clarke – College Psychologist
- Hayden Bakker – ICT Trainee
- Marie Hopkins – AUSLAN assistance for Educational Support
- Phil Scanlon and Jessica Berton – Music tutors
ICT

The holiday period was once again a busy one, with various works undertaken.

Our Information Technology Staff set up around 224 iPads for Year 7 students, as well as updating ICT infrastructure at both campuses to ensure that the latest WiFi standards (19 Wireless AC modules) are in place. Office 365 is being implemented and a server storage upgrade has been completed.

Ongoing work will again be undertaken to ensure that students remain aware of their responsibilities in terms of the appropriate use of devices. We ask that parents discuss and monitor this in the home environment. As has been mentioned numerous times, it is strongly advised that devices are used in public spaces within the home, particularly for younger students.


In 2016 the College will continue to utilise CareMonkey as our online database for the collection of emergency medical information from parents that are required on an annual basis for school records, and also for excursions, overnight camps etc. App4 Students will also continue to manage a host of key activities including a range of calendars, the timetable, recording homework and assignments, an area for messages and general school information. Teachers will record homework using the App which can then be viewed by students, or parents via App4Parents.

During 2016, we will commence phasing in a new Learning Management System (LMS) to replace Studywiz and App4 Students/App4 Parents. The product is Schoolbox, which is a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which not only contains an LMS, but also school portal and intranet. This will result in a more integrated, flexible environment to share, teach and learn online.

Reporting will be online in 2016 (Interim and Semester) so reports will no longer be mailed home. Schoolbox, when fully operational will allow for continuous reporting, and we are hoping to have this available in 2017 to families.

HOLIDAY PROJECTS

The most significant project undertaken during the holidays was the ongoing modernisation of six classrooms in the Year 7/8 area of the school. A number of walls were replaced with glass to create lighter, more open learning areas. Four of the rooms had new acoustic ceiling tiles and operable walls installed. The renovated rooms also had reverse cycle air-conditioning, new carpet, data projectors and automatic screens installed and all were freshly painted. The transformation of these classrooms in this area is remarkable.

The Chapel area also had improvements undertaken. While the former space was functional, it tended, through its visual appearance as a transformed education space, to lack a little the feel of a place of worship and reflection. The central area of the Chapel now has a timber feature traversing through the ceiling to behind the altar, where a new large crucifix has been installed. Feature lighting and new paint all add to a much improved place of worship befitting a Catholic school.

Other completed projects included the expansion to the technology precinct of the school. This involved the creation of new rooms for Media and Systems Technology. The Media Room is a flexible learning environment with moveable tables, a zone of new Apple computers, an area for a green screen as well as storage for cameras, tripods etc. The Systems Technology (Electronics) room has enhanced bench space for students to work and extra storage capability.

At the Y9@E (Burwood) Campus, the major holiday project was the renovation of the Hall and adjacent common room, as well as painting the Science Laboratories. The renovation of the Hall included new stage and side curtains, repair and replacement of a number of ceiling tiles and painting in modern tones. St Benedict’s Parish will be using the Hall on a regular basis.
for Masses during 2016 while their church undergoes extensive improvements.
Other work was undertaken during the holiday break by maintenance and cleaning staff to ensure the school has a very fresh appearance for the commencement of the 2016 academic year. Thank you to Business Manager Gary Casey and Facilities and Maintenance Manager Matt Anderton and their staff for all their work associated with these major improvements.

NEW LEARNING CENTRE

We now have all approvals completed for the new Learning Centre at Vermont South. The relocatables were demolished in mid-January and we are now about to go to tender. We are hopeful that construction can commence late in Term 1. This is an incredibly exciting new phase for the school, with the new Learning Centre to house Languages, a 240-seat Lecture Theatre, VCAL, Education Support, College Psychologists and Careers in a striking contemporary structure designed for 21st century students.

OPENING MASS AND INVESTITURE

Tuesday morning (9 February) is the very important Opening College Mass and Investiture of College Leaders. This will be held in the Tony Frizza Stadium. Parents, family and friends are most welcome to attend. The Mass and Investiture is due to commence at 8.45 am and conclude around 10.30 am.

The Emmaus theme for 2016 is “to Know Christ through Integrity”. Throughout the year, this will be a focus, with more details outlined to the school at Tuesday’s Mass and future Newsletters.

We congratulate the Captains for 2016:

**College Captains:** Elisha Torres Jason Bradley
**Vice Captains:** Emily Seeary James-Andre Galam

**College House Captains**

Chavoin Taylor Daniells Laurence Vivar
Colin Benjamin DiPaola Kate Tuohey
More Kristen Madjer Thomas Maher
Rice Daniel Sissins Laura Wilkinson

We have many other students in a variety of leadership roles across the College, and we are confident all our student leaders will work to leave a positive mark on the school in 2016.

CASUAL CLOTHES FRIDAY 5 FEBRUARY

In support of Lachlan James, the College will have a Casual Dress Day on Friday, 5 February on both Campuses. Students are asked to bring a gold coin or more, with all proceeds going to Youth Off the Streets – a cause close to Lachlan’s heart.
**CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE ENROLMENT**

There continues to be very strong demand for places at the College. As at 29 January, enrolments are as per the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>623</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>1262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While we are only just commencing the 2016 school year, it is important to note that Information Sessions and School Tours for Year 7 2017 commence almost immediately. The closing date for enrolment applications for all Catholic Secondary Schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne is Friday, 26 February.

Please make this date known to your friends, relatives or neighbours who are up to the stage of choosing a secondary school for their children. As Emmaus College has seen significant demand for enrolments in recent years, please ensure that if you are a current family, and wish to enrol another child for 2017, that your application is also in by this date.

Emmaus College Information Sessions for Year 7 2017 are as follows:

- Friday 12 February: Open Morning Vermont South (9.00am -10.30am)
- Tuesday 16 February: Information Session Vermont South (7.00pm)
- Wednesday 24 February: School Tour (9.00am - Bookings Essential for this tour)

**YEAR 12 2015**

Congratulations to the Emmaus College Class of 2015 for the results they achieved. From the class of 2015, 95% of our students who applied to VTAC received a first round offer. (45% receiving their first preference and a further 21% their second preference, while a further 6% received their third preference – 72% received their top three offers). As stated in the Final Newsletter for 2015 the Median Study Score was 31 compared with the State average of 30. The other figure commonly used by the media to rank schools is the proportion of students obtaining Study Scores of 40 or more. This figure was 8.0%.

The Dux of the College was 2015 School Captain Jack Allen whose ATAR was 98.25. We congratulate Jack on this fine achievement.

Congratulations are also offered to 2016 School Vice-Captain James-Andre Galam (Year 11) who was selected for the University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program for 2016-17.

**YEAR 7 AND YEAR 9 PARENT MEETINGS**

There is a meeting for Year 7 parents on Tuesday, 2 February at 7.00pm in the Tony Frizza Stadium. A focus of the meeting is iPads, followed by an opportunity to meet with Pastoral Teachers. We strongly encourage a representative from each family at this meeting.

The Year 9 Parent Meeting is on Wednesday, 3 February at the Burwood Campus at 7.30 pm. The focus of this meeting is information regarding this important year, and also the opportunity to meet with Pastoral Teachers.

**FEBRUARY CAMPS AND RETREATS**

February is always a very busy month at Emmaus, and we wish all our Year 7 students an enjoyable Orientation Camp to Rawson and our Year 12 students a reflective Retreat experience at their four locations. Please be aware of the school’s requirement to return students to Melbourne during this period if a ‘Code Red’ day is designated.

**PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

The first of our Parents and Friends Association meetings for 2016 will take place on Wednesday, 10 February at 7.30 pm in the Boardroom at Vermont South. We would love to have a few more parents who are interested/willing to contribute to parent community life at Emmaus. The first meeting roughly outlines events for 2016 with more detailed planning for the Family Fun Day which takes place on Sunday, 6 March

**EMMAUS 20TH ANNIVERSARY WITH SANTA YOSEPH JAKARTA**

2016 marks the 20th Anniversary of our Sister School relationship with Santa Yoseph Jakarta. A number of representatives of Santo Yoseph will visit Emmaus in August to mark this important milestone.

**SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP**

Open: 4 February & 3 March
8.15am – 9am & 3 – 4pm
Email: taniakeogh@hotmail.com
TRAFFIC, PATIENCE AND SAFETY

If entering school property at either campus, please exercise extreme caution in relation to driving. Both campuses are obviously high pedestrian traffic areas, and also have many vehicle movements per day. There are inevitably short term traffic issues each morning and afternoon. Patience and care will reduce the likelihood of accidents. In 2016 the situation will be exacerbated with building works planned at both campuses which will reduce parking and potentially slow traffic flow.

A reminder also regarding speed zones at both campuses. There is a 60 km/hr school speed zone on Springvale Road and 40 km/hr limit zones on Hawthorn Road during designated school times and a permanent 40 km/hr limit on Stanley Road. At Burwood Warrigal Road is 40 km/hr during designated school times while Loudon Road and Central Avenue are permanent 40 km/hr zones. Police regularly enforce these speed limits, as do council officers in relation to illegal parking – especially in the yellow zone areas near school crossings.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONCESSION CARD

Visit ptv.vic.gov.au to download the VPT Student Concession Card & Student Pass Application Form. The completed form and student photos may then be signed and stamped by staff at Student Services. Registration of myki cards is recommended to enable the balance on the myki to be protected if it is reported lost or stolen.

COMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Classes for all Year Levels Commence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Year 7 Parents’ Meeting, Vermont South, 7.00-9.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Year 7 iPad Connection Day Year 9 Parent Meeting, Burwood, 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Casual Clothes Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Opening School Mass and Investiture, Vermont South 8.45am Year 8 EISM Sport Commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday School Photographs Y9@E EISM Senior Sport Round 1 Parents &amp; Friends, Vermont South, 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>School Photographs, Vermont South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Open Morning, Vermont South, 9.00-10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp Rawson (More/Rice) 15-17 Feb Senior School Peak Skills Session 1 7.00-9.40pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Year 7 2017 Information Session, Vermont South, 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Year 12 Retreat 17-19 February Year 7 Camp Rawson (Chav/Col) 17-19 Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Year 11 Seminar Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Catch-up School Photographs Senior School Peak Skills Session 2 7.00-9.40pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>School Tour, Vermont South, 9.00am (Bookings essential)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Year 7 2017 Closing Date for Enrolment Applications Year 12 Class of 2015 Reunion, Vermont South 3.45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Senior School Peak Skills Sessions 3 7-9.40pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dear Class of 2015,

Emmaus College extends an invitation to you to attend a Reunion of the 2015 Year 12s in the Senior Learning Centre Friday, 26 February 2016 at 3.45pm

This will be an opportunity for the Class of 2015 to catch up and to collect your College Annual.