IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 27th March
End of Term 1
School finishes at 2.10pm

Monday 13th April
First day of Term 2

14th April to 28th April
Year 9 Da Vinci World Challenge Malaysia

14th April to 22nd April
Year 9 Da Vinci Surf Camp

Open 21st April
Applications for Year 7 Enrolment 2016

Thursday 23rd April
2pm-7pm
APC Open Day

Friday 1st May
SEAL Registration closes

Saturday 9th May
SEAL Exam

PRINCIPAL’S SAY

I have always had a passionate interest in what really drives a successful school. This is a topic that David Gillespie, author of “Free Schools,” knows a lot about. He has researched and then written about the things that really matter in creating a high performing school.

David highlights the importance of parental expectations. “High expectations, consistently deliver high results. Parents who expect a lot from their kids invariably create kids who expect a lot from themselves.” One of the most critical measures of success is whether your child really believes that they can achieve.

Parent engagement is critical and that is why we have such a strong emphasis in involving parents every step along the way in your child’s learning- we are committed to a partnership of learning.

Even more critical are teachers who are passionate about teaching. I am proud to say that we have one of the most committed and passionate teaching teams in the state. This is marked by teachers that have a focus on teaching development and who constantly undertake professional development to enhance their skills in the classroom.

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Right from day one we have had an unswerving focus on teacher professional development, perhaps best symbolized by our annual two day conference which brings together our professional development theme for each year. In 2015 we are concentrating on embedding a school wide approach to the art and science of teaching.

He also highlights the importance of effective school leadership, a leadership team that designs an effective system for learning and which has an unrelenting focus on high performance and high expectations.

Other things that he says are “nice to have” include the opportunity to take part in extracurricular activities. Activities that encourage participation, that allow kids to learn new things and take risks in a safe environment result in better outcomes. This highlights the benefits of our Inspire program in which over 40 clubs and activities are available to our students every week.

Effective behavior management is important. He says it should be “tight and frequently enforced.” This reinforces our belief that it is important to have high standards in the classroom. David believes that the most powerful tool of all is to “simply tell their parents.”

Parent communication should be direct and regular.

Ultimately, David believes that what really matters are excellent leaders, teams of teachers who are professional and engaged learners who believe that they can learn. That sounds a lot like Albert Park College to me.

Steve Cook - Foundation Principal
40 Bay Street Launch

Last week we had a highly successful launch of 40 Bay Street. Close to 200 guests toured the site to gain an insight into our vision for the creation of our new Year 9 campus. 6 Degrees architects brought our sketch designs to life as we painted a picture of a space dedicated to the exploration of the study of the arts and environment.

The challenge of restoring two significant heritage buildings and transforming them into a modern 21st century learning environment is not for the fainthearted but 40 Bay Street promises to be one of the most innovative learning spaces in the state.

We are on track to open at the start of 2015 and this was the last opportunity to see the space before we strip out the buildings and redevelop the site.

A chapter in the school’s life is about to unfold in the shape of a new campus.
We have a bold vision for this space and to help bring it to life we are seeking one thousand people who are willing to donate $1,000.00 to our cause. Of course, large scale corporate donations are welcome as well. Over $30,000 was raised at the launch and we have three corporate sponsors who also committed to our project on the night.

WAYS TO BECOME INVOLVED

A TAX FREE cash, cheque, or credit card donation can be MADE AT THE COLLEGE

Visit www.albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au where a donation can be MADE ONLINE.

A MEETING WITH THE COLLEGE to discuss a long term partnership.

Please feel free to contact Tania Scaramuzzino at Albert Park College on 8695 9000 or via email taniascaramuzzino@albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au

Visit our website www.albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au for more information.

We would love to hear from you if you are aware of sponsors who care about our community and the future of education.

Steve Cook
Foundation Principal

Lead Create Inspire
Swimming Sports Carnival

The annual APC Swimming carnival was held at MSAC on another fantastic morning. The sun shone down as the carnival started at the outdoor pool with the exciting 50m freestyle races. With over 70 event races and in electric conditions Freeman succeeded in securing this years title closely followed by Flannery and Winton.

It was a great day with outstanding contributions from pupils. The house spirit was on full display as the colourful students chanted and sang through the events and showcased some impressive costumes for the fashion parade. Congratulations to all Albert Park College students and staff who participated in supporting their house on the day.

It was another spectacular Swimming Carnival with the elite students showing off their swimming prowess as well as those just getting in the water to score points in the much anticipated novelty races. The college would like to thank all staff and parents who attended the day ensuring it was a success.

Our Head of create, Joshua Howard and students Macson Dimovski, Cat Warren, James Bartlett and Charlotte Hewitson created a beautiful video with the footage from our 2015 Swimming Carnival. Watch this video!
**2015 Age Champions**

**Year 7**
- BILLY GIANAKOPOULOS
- HANNAH MAGASANIK

**Year 8**
- Oscar Burdett & Lewis O’DONNELL
- Alexis ROSE

**Year 9**
- Kurtis Macaulay
- Tess BURGER

**Year 10**
- Hamish TUDHOPE
- ANYA SCOBLE-HANSEN

**Year 11**
- Jake KAZAKEVICS
- Katie LEWIS

Champion swimmers and leading competitors represented the Interschool Swimming competition at Oakleigh the very next week. A squad of 20 students swam in Individual races and relays scoring points for the College and gaining a credible position in the final standings against much bigger schools.

Regional swimming championships saw our first place swimmers gain positions on the podium and the proud students through to the next stage in State finals are:

- Oscar Burdett
- Hannah Magasanik
- Alexis Rose
- Freya Seckinger-Crow

**Parent Contributions**
Just a gentle reminder that parent contributions are due by the end of this week. Without your support we could not provide the rich and varied range of activities on offer at Albert Park College! Simply drop in or contact reception to make your payment.
Congratulations to Emma Madgwick who received the Victorian School Sports Award 2014!

Congratulations to the Year 8 Girls Volleyball Team. They came runners up in the Beachside, Girls A Grade, Volleyball competition.

The Year 8 Girls Tennis Teams had a fantastic day out at Dendy Park, with both A & B teams coming away unbeaten. Congratulations to all of the girls, they were fantastic sports and well deserved winners!

The Year 7 boys A Tennis team played really well this Friday 20th March going through the entire round-robin tournament undefeated. The team was made up of Oliver Kalicin, Toby Arms, Ryan Sweeney and Marcus Sparrow.

**Vaudeville** auditions will be in the second week of term two. Break a leg!
French visit

From 10-23 March, 12 APC families hosted students from our new French Sister School. Not only did the French visitors have a great time practising their English and learning about the Australian way of life, but many of our students had the opportunity to practise their French when the visitors helped out in our French classes.

Our visitors were also lucky to have a Beach Volleyball class, taught by APC’s very own state champion, Brandon Eagle. “Merci, Brandon. Tu es super”

A PANEL ON YOU?

Last year’s aim for our Solar Panel project was to add a further 20 kilowatts of solar panels in order to create a 90 kilowatt system over time. This year we need only 15 families to add an additional 10kWp.

If you would like to be a part of this project you can purchase one or more panels by donating directly to the College. Each panel costs $380.00 to install, this is the total system price divided by 40 (40 panels for a 10kWp system).

If you have no roof space at home and you want to teach your child about energy saving this is a great way to play your part in establishing Albert Park College as an energy hub in our community. We have a lot of roof space to cover!
The sister school students were thrilled to see the exceptional APC facilities when they took part in special classes, like this group in the Food rooms. As one student said “Wow, ça n’existe pas en France!”

A heartfelt ‘merci’ must go to the fantastic students who hosted our first group of French sister school students. You were stunning hosts and ambassadors of APC. Félicitations. The staff and students from both schools look forward to planning more trips as part of our sister school relationship.

Our Music program

The instrumental music program is going from strength to strength this year having to hire an additional 3 teachers to take all of the new students. We’ve also increased the amount of ensembles offered. We currently run a Big Band, Flute Ensemble, Contemporary Band, Jazz Ensemble, Rock Band, String Band, Guitar Ensemble, 2 Choirs, Chamber Ensemble, Concert Band, Brass Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble.
Students of year 11 Literature studied William Shakespeare’s play Hamlet this term. Students produced both analytical and creative pieces in response to the play’s central concerns, attempting to experiment with similar language and structural features of the play. Students created a soliloquy from one of the main character’s perspectives.

Lily Harnath - Ophelia [aside]:
I am surrounded by a garden that reeks of chaos.
The weeds cut at my ankles,
The thorns scratch at my heart.
The plants have grown so high,
I am blinded by the darkness.
There are no cracks for the light to shine through,
I am consumed by weeds, unable to move.
The sweet violets have died,
Strangled by an entire kingdom.
And just in my reach is the shining apple,
The temptation almost too much to bear.
The violets that used to tie down my hand have now loosened, But the rosemary and pansies still scratch at my wrist.
With one movement I can break free,
But I fear that the apple is poison
And that the flowers will close in on me.
The columbine overgrows,
Feeding off other plants.
It kills flowers as it moves along,
Leaving a path of destruction in its wake.
I would kill it with the bottom of my shoe
But my feet are caught in my dress
And the plant has grown over my toes,
Painfully tightening at my ankles.
I water the rosemary and pansies
In hope that they will flourish and live forever.
I can see daisies grow just outside of the garden.
They are pure and beautiful, completely unharmed.
I long to make chains out of them,
Crowns would be most fitting,
But they cannot grow in the garden of Denmark.
For they will rot and wither like all things good.
The garden closes in around me,
The stems curling around my limbs.
The weeds climb up my neck like a venomous serpent.
They crawl up my chin and slide around my mouth.
I can barely breath,
They are going to drown me.
AC Families

Thank you to all of those who attended our Term 1 drinks at The Vincent. We had about 50+ people join us and it was a wonderful evening. We have some exciting events coming up, so put these dates in your diaries:

- Please join us for the APC Families AGM and Drinks at The Vincent at 5:30pm on 16th April – the meeting will be short and the drinks – you can stay as long as you like!
- Parent Connect – evening talks relevant to our growing teenagers and their challenges. Dates to be confirmed
- Trivia Night is on 19th June and has two new energised owners – Shelley Osler and Terry Black – they will be there on 16th April so that you can let them know if you can assist them.
- Vaudeville is planned for 7th August and we will need assistance, so if you are drama oriented email us on apc.families@gmail.com
- The Art Show is on 16-18 October and Trudy Rice already has that on the go, but is always open to additional helpers.

If you are keen to be part of the APC Families Steering Committee, please ensure you are at the AGM. If you have any queries or wish to express interest contact Michelle Robin on apc.families@gmail.com

This evening, Wednesday 25th March at 4.30pm Albert Park College will host its first official Open Mic Night for APC Student Writers. Student Writers will present their stories, poems, prose and non-fiction pieces to each other, teachers, parents and carers.

There are three Book Prizes awarded to the top three performances and a special APC Miles Franklin Literary Prize.

Melbourne author Darrell Pitt will introduce the event, speaking about the writing process and reading an excerpt from his bestselling young adult series ‘The Firebird Mystery: A Jack Mason Adventure’. Student songwriter Henry Mlikota will also perform an original song for the event.

Come along, support and listen to the next generation of student writers, we’ll be thrilled to have you!