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A PRINCIPAL’S PERSPECTIVE

UNLOCKING CREATIVITY

The Year In Review is a creative and interactive way in which to capture a year in the life of a school. A bold, graphic interface invites you to share through images, word and film the highlights of your child’s year at Albert Park College.

This year, The Year In Review is much more focused on student voice - their experiences and their view of life at the College.

The overriding message that they have shared is that we offer a rich and varied program. As you navigate your way through The Year In Review you will be able to share the moments that have had the most impact on your child in 2014. The joy they feel in being part of the College and their commitment to do their very best shines through.

Our focus on creativity and innovation is a real feature of this edition and I am sure you will be impressed by the quality and range of activities across the school year.

This year, Albert Park College has made a big step forward with its ever-burgeoning arts program. I have been particularly impressed by the growth in our visual and performing arts programs as evidenced by the quantity and quality of this important part of the life of the school.

Our Annual Vaudeville Evening filled the National Theatre, music performance found expression in an outstanding concert evening, our students wrote and performed an original Opera and we will be doing it all again next year! The Annual Art show returned bigger and better than ever. I love the way we reach out to our community through events such as this.

For me, however, the highlight was the school production. Early this year we set our students the challenge of creating their own original script. In response, they produced the production “Recess” which was tightly written, creative and beautifully performed to a packed house.

The overriding theme of The Year In Review is about creativity and imagination, led by our amazing students exploring the limits of their potential with confidence and real joy.

I hope you enjoy sharing their experiences as much as I have.

Steve Cook
Foundation Principal
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

2015 has been another year of enormous growth and change at APC.

A highlight of the year has been securing the ‘Circus Oz’ building in Bay Street, which will become our new Year 9 campus. This will allow us to place another 200 local students at APC, expanding our ability to serve the local community with high quality public education.

Through APC Families, we have continued to grow the involvement of parents and carers in the life of the school via events such as the Art Show, Vaudeville and Trivia Night, and an ever-widening selection of camps, bike rides and hikes ranging as far afield as Nepal. We also held our first ever parents’ forum, which investigated whether APC has lived up to parents’ expectations and where parents would like the school to go in the future. This became a key input into our 4-yearly review of the school.

The finance team has steered us expertly through the year, allowing us to invest in new resources as our numbers grow, while setting aside funds for the ‘Circus Oz’ project. The grants and partnerships (parent) team secured additional funding for our arts and sports programs, and the next stage of our greening strategy including rooftop solar panels and a vertical garden. We have also established new partnerships with the South Melbourne Lifesaving Club, South Melbourne Districts Sports Club, the NGV and the University of Melbourne, expanding our capacity and opportunities for students.

We have now reached the end of the school’s first 4-year Strategic Plan and are preparing a new Plan to guide us through the next four years. As part of this process, we undertook a thorough review of the school—its performance in terms of student achievement, engagement and wellbeing, and the school’s productivity. This included a peer review by three highly experienced external reviewers. The results were outstanding. In its report, the reviewers noted that “Albert Park College (APC) exudes energy and a passion for student learning and achievement ... The college has worked diligently to create a highly effective school and the leaders, staff, students and council have much to be proud of.”

As we head into the second phase of the school’s life, we will build on our momentum to ensure an outstanding senior years’ program and to continue to drive APC to the forefront of contemporary education.

Mark Sheppard
School Council President
SCHOOL CAPTAIN

OSCAR WALSH

2014 has been an interesting year for me. I spent a large portion of it with an ankle injury, but having the privilege of being one of APC’s school captains was one of the highlights. At first I was a bit apprehensive, mainly about the public speaking involved, but over the course of the year I think I’ve become much more comfortable with talking in front of an audience. I’ve also had the privilege of working with the principle team and getting a glimpse of the enormous amount of work it takes to run this school. The sheer dedication displayed by everyone involved is inspiring. Being school captain was a very rewarding experience, and I’d definitely encourage anyone contemplating it to apply for next year.

AISLINGE SAMUEL

Being school captain this year has been a really rewarding experience. Making speeches, and talking in front of large groups of people has given me great experiences and more confidence when it comes to presenting. All together I enjoy helping people, getting involved in the Art Show, and the Open Day, and being a part of a great team of people. I sincerely recommend being a part of the leadership team, as working in teams, getting to know others, and being a part of the school community is fun, enjoyable, and builds on good life skills.

School Captains at the announcement of APC’s new campus in Bay St.
“This was a great day, we were all so competitive and determined to win! My group the Howard’s Heroes came 5th out of 11 teams. Everyone was contributing to the challenges, which was great to see.”

Jack Birdseye – Year Eight

Students working collaboratively during the Amazing Race.
“The stands were lit up in the colours of Green, Blue and silver. There were lots of races to compete in including 100m, 800m, high jump, shot put, Long jump, and the teacher staff race. The day was a great success, setting the bars even higher for next year’s event.”

Gabby Broderick – Year Eight
“The students were attending a three-day camp at the Australian Institution of Sport. We were coached by some great up and coming athletes and learnt what AIS lifestyle and daily routine was like. We got to know the coaches and players from the Academy and met some inspirational figures in basketball.”

“I enjoyed playing basketball for three hours each day with the elite athletes.”

Jeremy Scott – Year Eight
Jamie Brooker – Year Nine
“I don’t think any of us would ever forget what we experienced through the Da Vinci Program. We learnt how to become an individual learner, take responsibilities and most importantly, make choices. We were required to come up with our own big question - our topic - in relation to the environment. We investigated thoroughly, researched different perspectives of our questions and aimed to create an artistic work that portrayed your big question.”

“The semester of DaVinci was uplifting, inspiring, interesting and opened our eyes to existing problems and how we could work towards fixing them. DaVinci wasn’t just about learning, it was a class where you could interact with friends and teachers in group activities exploring the environmental problems we face today and tomorrow.”

John Kim – Year 9
Dene Morris – Year 9
“Visiting the dodge ball tournament for only one game was enough to be fully immersed in the motive of the game. As soon as you walk in the door you are hit with an air of competition. The room was pumping with students running up and down the court, cushioned balls flying throughout the air while the sound of shoes colliding with the ground and shouts from team members fills ones ears.”

Chloe Longo – Year Ten
SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Term One Sport commenced with warmth and enthusiasm. Within the curriculum, the four main sports students participated in were Tennis, Cricket, Softball and Volleyball. Outside of the curriculum context, students were provided with many sporting opportunities including Netball, Run Club, Fitness Centre Access and Football. 2014 saw APC’s first all boys Netball team and the introduction of Netball uniforms as organised by Sue-Ellen Godde.

One of Term One’s highlights was the leadership program’s sailing opportunities and the local Sailing Squadron. For many of the Year Seven students, term one was their introduction to the ocean waters and students participated in the Sailing program. With low winds and warm weather it was perfect conditions for beginners to learn. The second year of the APC Sailing Team coaching at RMYS was held in great sailing conditions. With sunny skies and winds gusting to 12 knots, the Team was put to task getting the hang of the Pacer Dinghy’s with skipper and crew coordinating their skills.
Term Two was a season of excellence and team work, with accomplishments within the Cross Country, Soccer, Tennis, AFL and Netball. During the term, over 270 students participated in Interschool sport and was testament to the growing sport program.

Excelled was achieved in the cross country with twenty five teams moving onto the Regional Finals. Within this group, Mitchell Waring, Will Hurley, Emma Foley and Chelsea Saw progressed to State finals. The Year Seven’s proved to be unstoppable with success in the Year 7 Tennis state finals. The group was highly committed and showed immense professionalism and indeed ‘class’.

2014’s sporting program continues to grow in inter-school competitiveness.
On the 31st of January, Albert Park College began its school year for 2014. The courtyard was a buzz, filling with over six hundred students. Swarms of grey and blue blazers filed through the College gates. Initially each year level could be clearly defined; the contrast of the Year Seven's nervously clumped together as the Year Ten's squealed with excitement as they saw old friends post the holidays. By lunchtime, these segregations of year levels could not be found, as students welcomed each other into the community of APC.

Although it was a beginning of the year like most, it marked a special chapter in the APC timeline. 2014 marked the beginning of its Senior Years program, and the Year Ten students entered the school grounds ready to begin a challenging and exciting year ahead.
My favourite part of Halloween was the students throwing pies at the teachers! Everyone looked amazing all dressed up and we raised a considerable amount of money.

Year 7 Student
Malaysia - Year Nine Da Vinci Camp

"With an early start and plenty of tearful goodbyes (more so from the parents!) we set off from Melbourne airport to land in Kuala Lumpur that afternoon. After a couple of days in the capital, checking out the architecture, markets and food, among other slices of Malaysian city culture, we were all ready to head to the hills where we spent 3 days trekking through tea plantations and strawberry farms, as well as a day white water rafting. This was followed by one long day over-landing it to the east coast and onto the paradise that is the Perhenthian Islands. Here we spent almost a week on a Turtle Conservation Project at Bubbles Resort. An enriching life experience for challengers and leaders alike."
The World Challenge trip to Malaysia provided us with a fantastic opportunity to explore the many faces of a country rich in wildlife and cultural diversity. From eating on the street and fossicking through the markets of KL to hiking in the Cameron Highlands and working on turtle conservation in the Perhentian Islands, the experiences on offer allowed us to grow as a group and to feel that we had been part of an important project: a project that facilitated initiative, creativity, perseverance and teamwork.

Watching the release of baby turtles.
It was worth the early wake up seeing the wholesale market in action was an amazing experience, that not the everyday person gets to see. I learnt all about the market and how it opens at 3:30am and everything is nearly sold out by 5am. I would love to return!

Year 7 Student
Mind and Body day was great. The yoga class in the morning, a delicious healthy breakfast and an exciting trip to Bounce and Hardrock meant for a fun day.

Year 8 Student
On Thursday 6th November, APC held its first music concert and it was a huge success. Students from all years and skill levels spent months preparing pieces by musicians from Ella Fitzgerald to Chet Faker. Their dedication paid off on the night as extraordinary talent was displayed. We hope the concert will continue to be a success for years to come. Thank you to the dedicated music staff who worked so hard to make it happen.
BRINGING NGV ARTWORKS TO LIFE

YEAR SEVEN THEATRE STUDIES

“The Year 7 Theatre Studies students were given the challenge of creating a short theatre piece based upon one of six paintings at the National Gallery of Victoria. The students had an initial visitation to the NGV, selecting one particular artwork. The students researched their paintings, developed original scripts, rehearsed and learnt them and returned in the final week of this term to perform their short pieces at The NGV in front of each of the artworks. It was a new venture for the gallery to have Drama students performing their own responses to artworks.”

CIRCA: S GASWORK’S THEATRE

“What I liked about the circus was that they did a different variety of acrobatics. Many of the movements were repeated in a stylized manner, some tricks easy and some appearing hard.”

“The performance was extremely smooth and was well executed. Some of the acrobatic tricks were so breathtaking I nearly choked. It was an unforgettable experience.”

Ethan Brougham – Year Seven
Felix Capp – Year Eight

APC’s students participating in external performing arts programs.
As Albert Park College grows, so do the crowds and attraction of our yearly Open Days. This year’s Open Day showcased the unique and diverse curriculum, and new parents and students were able to engage in discussion with staff and students. A highlight of the event was the Performing Arts presentations featured in the courtyard. The performances ranged from Philosophy soap box, masked theatrical performance, year seven and eight dances to the ever developing music program. The success of the evening is a testament to the strong and connected community at APC and the shared pride for our teachers and students of our College.
SNOW CAMP

Another successful snow camp ran this year to Victoria's popular ski resort Falls Creek, located in the Alpine National Park in North Eastern Victoria. The camp ran from the 25th to the 29th of August and was attended by both Albert Park College students and teachers, as well as by the students parents. This snow season was one of the best in the past decade and with over one meter of snow coverage below and bright blue skies overhead it was one of the best APC Snow Camps so far.
"I attended the Surf camp, and it was a blast! After eight hours of traveling, we finally arrived at Tathra, on the border of New South Wales and Victoria. Not only did we surf, but we also got in touch with our creative side by creating an art piece with painted sticks as well as building sandcastles. Our journey taught us the importance of the marine environment and showed us the beauty of getting to know one another, and developing friendships, new and old."

John Kim – Year Nine
“Arriving at MSAC on the day of our annual swimming carnival, the first thing to be seen when I reached the stands was a sea of blue, green, and silver. Teachers and students alike all dressed in their house colours to fight it out for the win.

After each race, I went to the stands to cheer Winton on. At the end of the day, we had the teacher races, and then the winners were announced. “In third place... no, I mean, in fourth place, is Flannery!” - an obvious tease. Unfortunately, Freeman came victorious in the end of the day, holding onto their Swim Day Win streak that they’ve held onto since the school opened back in 2011. I had fun overall, although I was exhausted, and I just hope Freeman doesn’t win again next year!”

Anya Scoble-Hansen
– Year Nine
“The spotlight shines in my face, the pulsing light illuminating the shadowy figures of the audience. The polished wooden stage was cool against my hands. Head down, crouched in position, I resisted the urge to look up and wave at my parents, sitting in the front row. The air was alive with excitement and tension. Then the first few notes of music played, breaking the silence, and I began to dance.

Through Vaudeville, You meet so many amazing new people-often people from other year levels that you mightn’t have met otherwise. You find out things about yourself - like that you can perform in front of hundreds of people.”

Sophie Hodge – Year Seven
This exhibition, Three Perfections at the NGV was aligned with our English study of Li Cunxin’s autobiography, ‘Mao’s Last Dancer’. As part of the exhibition students learnt how to write and paint with traditional Chinese ink, brushes and paper. Students experimented with how to create different shades of grey ink for the final product, an ink painting of bamboo.

The exhibition explored the interconnectedness between poetry, calligraphy and painting, with works dating from the fourteenth century to the present. For me, the highlights of the visit were the practical activities – viewing the artworks, interpreting paintings in a way that connected to our own lives and learning to use Chinese technique in our own brush stroke artwork.

Cat Warren and Ella O’Donoghue – Year Seven
YEAR TEN MENTAL HEALTH DAY

“It is estimated that every Australian will be indirectly affected because a friend, family member or colleague suffers from a mental health issue. With this knowledge, APC responded by providing Year Ten students with an afternoon entirely dedicated supporting positive mental health.

Workshops were facilitated by APC staff and external providers: yoga facilitated by Laura O’Driscoll, Tai Chi facilitated by Celestial Tai Chi College, Mindful walking by Hayley Schirmer, Music therapy and African Drumming facilitated by Arlene Fletcher, Juggling facilitated by Quirky Devils Circus and meditation facilitated by the Business of Yoga.”

Chloe Longo – Year 10

VERBAL COMBAT

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE

The Year Seven’s experienced a unique educational experience, learning about the challenges of the online world. The educational program was taught through a theatrical performance titled “Verbal Combat”.

I thought this was a good idea because I could see what would really happen if I was ever placed in a similar situation.

“I enjoyed how they were able to change through their characters smooth and quickly, their acting skills were really good.”

“The way they demonstrated the consequences of this aspect of bullying and how careful you have to be, when handing out passwords for social media apps.”

Mia Spake, Leo Shepperd and Gabby Meyn – Year Seven

Getting involved in mental health programs.
On Friday the 20th of June all the Year 7’s went on a trip to Melbourne Zoo. During the bus ride, you could feel the excitement created by the excursion. All around you, you could hear everyone chatting, talking to their partners maybe planning which animals they would see. But the real fun started when we finally got there. We entered the zoo and our teachers lead us to our meeting places (if we got lost). But as soon as that was over, we were released and free to roam around the zoo. We saw many animals like the parkour expert monkeys, the new baby elephant, the seals and many more. Some of the animals we saw there were completely unknown to us.

While going around the zoo we were all assigned to complete a worksheet which contained tasks that we needed to take pictures of certain endangered species. We even got to complete a challenge which you could win a price if you got the most points in your class.

Some of my many highlights were to be able to pat the sting rays and to be able to have a whole day with my friends.

Rocio Wilson – Year Seven
The Art Show is one of the most anticipated community events in the year and is a great opportunity for students to enter their artwork in a gallery space amongst professional artwork. Many Wednesday afternoons were spent mounting student artworks and counseling those about their artistic intentions. The weekend was a huge success, the weather was perfect for the range of creative workshops, Performance, Wood oven pizza and the Rotary Club Book Store. Thanks to everyone involved in this amazing event! In particular Trudy Rice, the Parents, Students and all of the Create Teachers who without their efforts this weekend would not be possible.
Success can be measured in many ways at the Albert Park College Basketball Academy. It may be the acquisition of new on-court skills for new players. It can be seen in the cementing of friendship groups within academy teams and it most certainly is noted in the smiles on the faces of happy, healthy and engaged athletes. 2014 also presented a new way for the basketball academy family to look upon success with the outstanding gold and bronze (medal) State final results of the year 10 boys and year 7 girls’ inter-school teams. “Perseverance, dedication and hard work have provided the opportunity for reward for this tremendous group of junior sportspeople” said program director Nigel Purchase. “Many of the year 10 boys’ team, who have brought a State Championship flag back to the college, were members of the inaugural academy group in 2011” said Nigel. “We are so proud that the success of this team has been founded on a resolve and determination to succeed, something that we try to instil in all of our academy athletes. It was not an overnight success but one that has been a result of a continued dedication to training and progression”.

The basketball academy experiences was extended to the Australian Capital Territory early in 2014, with a group of APC basketball students given the opportunity to eat, train and live as elite athletes at the Australian Institute of Sport. “Our basketballers lived on campus in the athlete village, ate nutritionally balanced meals where the best athletes in the country eat and trained in world class facilities, usually reserved for basketballers at the highest level,” recalled APC head coach Dave Peters. “Our early morning trainings were nothing compared to the regime of A.I.S. athletes,” joked Dave. “We were happy to see APC academy students embrace the leadership and intensity required of elite sportspeople and who knows, maybe there is a future Australian Boomer or Opal amongst our team.”

2015 looks like another bumper year for the basketball academy with the inclusion of a High Performance Program for senior students. Strength and conditioning coaches will work with this select entry group of athletes, helping them to navigate sporting excellence and academic achievement through their final years of secondary school. “The discipline of elite athletic achievement goes hand in hand with academic success and we look forward to providing this pathway for students wishing to take their game and studies to the next level,” said Nigel Purchase. “There is something for everyone at the APC Basketball Academy and we can’t wait for the new basketball year to begin.”
AFTER TIEPOLO

A quilted gathering of lush regality, auspicious aristocrats regulated tongues abiding by permissions of tolerance.

Take care, though, of suspicious powers menacing beyond the light’s dictation rotten behind the eyes.

Simone Varney

YEAR 10 EKPHRASIS POETRY PROGRAM FACILITATED BY THE NGV

Painting is mute poetry and poetry is a speaking picture. Plutarch

During Semester Two a small group of Year 10 students attended a series of Ekphrastic Poetry Workshops at the National Gallery of Victoria. This unique program gave students the opportunity to write, edit and perform poetry inspired by artworks in the NGV. This year, families, teachers and friends of the students involved in the Ekphrasis program were given the exciting opportunity to visit the National Gallery of Victoria, after hours, where we listened to the young performers recite their poetry in front of the works of art that inspired them. All students involved on the night did an outstanding job performing their work.

Campbell Rider, Aislinge Samuel, Ava Thornley, Simone Varney and Nazry Yazid – Year Ten

Simone Varney presenting her poem.
On the 3rd of June, Year 9 Da Vinci food went on an excursion to Fare Share organisation which is located in Abbotsford. We visited the organisation as part of our project about food waste. We volunteered to help Fare Share make food for families and people who can't afford food. Once we got there some people began to make mini quiches and others were packing them into boxes to send out to all the other organisations.

Sienna Withington – Year Nine
“May marked the launch of APC’s first restaurant, ‘The Albert’. The food was of restaurant quality, with an exquisite taste. It was exploding with flavor and texture, all the elements fitted well in every dish. I had a fantastic experience at ‘The Albert’.”

Peter Asmanis – Year Ten
Thirteen textiles students from year 7-9 took part in a textiles and art workshop at the NGV in preparation for the Jean Paul Gaultier exhibition. Students worked with NGV staff to develop education workshops and create some innovative fashion designs.

Later in the year, the students were invited back to see the exhibition for themselves. It was a wonderful experience, and a highlight was being told that Jean Paul Gaultier was extremely impressed with their work and expressed interest in working with the students in the future!
The Year 9 Marine Studies class this year explored the Marine Environments surrounding Port Phillip Bay. The group went on many excursions including a day snorkeling out at Ricketts Point, watching a Shark Documentary at IMAX and a 3 day Marine Camp to Queenscliff. On the Marine Camp students snorkeled around Queenscliff, visited the Marine Discovery Centre & even tried their hand at fishing all whilst learning about sustainable recreational Fishing.

In outdoor education this year, students went outside the classroom to explore outdoor environments and issues affecting local areas. Students engaged in numerous outdoor recreation excursions including rock climbing, abseiling and mountain biking in the You Yangs, hiking in the Brisbane ranges and visiting Healesville Sanctuary to learn about threats to our native species.

Camryn Edwards presenting her catch.
The trip was also about the local people. We were very fortunate to spend time with friends like Jagan, a lady who was once nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize and Chandra, a great friend & our mountain guide, with over 18 years experience, who also brought his son and daughter on the trek, which was a wonderful addition to the hike. Our Porters were also delightful and was very sad to part ways with them after the trek. Everywhere we went, we met incredibly friendly people and whilst Nepal is a very poor country, they are so rich in other ways.
PORT MELBOURNE CORPORATION EXCURSION

Two Year 10 Humanities classes attended an excursion to the Port of Melbourne Corporation to learn about the movement of goods into and out of Victoria. Students attended a seminar at the Port Education Centre, before participating in a guided bus tour of the Port where they learned about the wide range of functions involved in running the Port and the employment opportunities it has to offer.
The Rotary Group at Albert Park formed in the latter half of the year and has been involved in a number of very exciting projects. A group of very enthusiastic members promoted Wear it Purple Day to help raise awareness of prejudice against LGBTI students in the community. It was wonderful to see everyone don a purple ribbon to show their solidarity. The group then went on to promote the Albert Park Rotary Club’s Book Fair which coincided with the Art Show and later Bandana Day where they raised funds to support young people living with cancer. In 2015, the Rotary Club hope to continue to actively support the local community and raise awareness of those less fortunate.

Students gave up their warm cosy beds for a night and instead slept in the freezing cold APC courtyard to raise money for the Vinnies School Sleep Out. Students learnt to appreciate the comfort of their homes and reflected that ‘it wasn’t fun for one night, imagine what it would be like every night’. ‘It was a hard but meaningful experience. You grew to understand what [the homeless] go through every night’.
APC’s second annual School Production, titled ‘Recess’, was a compilation of scripts exploring the complex, challenging and hilarious world of school. The script was written by the year Ten Theatre Studies class, and indeed was an ambitious project for all students.

“I had a great time writing my own script. It taught me a vital component of theatre”

“The creative process of writing the script really made me think more about character development, and how another actor could interpret my script”

“Writing the script definitely made me realise the effort put into scripts. It was a very intricate process which was a great experience”

“The goal was for originality, creativity and thoughtfulness. Hard, quality time was put into achieving that, and the end result was more than I hoped for.”

Josh Mann, Aislinge Samuel, Eric Loong and Melanie Erceg – Year Ten

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Jack Birdseye – Year Eight

I made a whole tonne of new friends from all year levels and was able to show APC parents and students what I can do. The school production had a variety of singing dancing and media which was really nice to see. I strongly recommend the school production to students of all year levels, as it is a fun and a joyful experience. It’s seems the school production is getting better and better every year!
It has been a very active year in Science this year with many excursions, the celebration of science week and several guest speakers and link-ups. Our students again had the opportunity to go to Genetic Technology Access Centre (GTAC) and they were involved with live crosses to scientists Prof Brian Cox and Professor Tania Munro. The students enjoyed hearing how such eminent scientists had their first beginnings. Our students were also very privileged to have a talk given to them by Ms Barbara Fairchild, who, ten years ago, was working for the European Space agency and helped create and build Ptolemy, the chemistry laboratory on the Rosetta Lander that successfully landed on comet 67P/Churyumov–Gerasimenko. The students were captivated by her descriptions of how the instrument was developed and tested and particularly intrigued by how ‘old tech’ it was. It was a wonderful opportunity and we are very grateful that she could take the time for us.
This long, tired and rewarding journey started with the beachside division competition held in Dandenong. During this time, both the APC teams got through to the regional tournament, with the boys defeating Melbourne High School by about 30 points! Winning this tournament was a huge confidence booster for us, since we lost to Melbourne High in last year’s grand final matchup.

Kahkeen Liew – Captain
On 18 September, members of the APC Student Forum attended a briefing at the Parliament of Victoria on new “sexting” legislation that was passed through Parliament. Students had the opportunity to meet with MP Clem Newton Brown to discuss the legislation and the impact it might have on young people.
The Year 9 Theatre Studies students participated in Malthouse Theatre’s Suitcase Series this semester. Students used a script as stimulus to write and create their own theatre performance that was presented, alongside 50 other schools at the Malthouse Theatre. The play explored themes of Climate Change and the students were challenged to present this in an artistic way that extended knowledge they had already explored through the Da Vinci program. Our students were highly commended for their performance and their involvement in the discussion on the day.
Students completed a four day hiking expedition in one of three locations. The Great Ocean Walk, The Great Dividing Trail and Wilson’s Prom provided the backdrop for students to challenge their personal leadership and physical endeavour. Although tough, students came away from the camp having stepped outside their comfort zone and supported other group members to do the same. Along with a half day of surfing or mountain bike riding, students hiked and camped each night at a new location, experiencing ‘true camping’ and achieving more than they previously thought possible. One student remarked, “I am so proud of myself for doing all these things I never thought I could do.”

Congratulations to all students and staff involved.
Year 8 camp was held in Term 4 at Lake Tyers and was journey based, meaning we hiked, canoed and mountain biked our way from one campsite to the next. Though physically demanding we all felt a sense of accomplishment after each leg of the trip and the amazing scenery and wildlife (including wallabies, lace monitor, frogs, crabs) made it well worth the effort! A big highlight was getting to know others in the group outside of the classroom, in particular over group cooking sessions and games on the beach.
In Term Four, 22 students from years 7, 8 and 9 and 17 parents took part in the annual Great Victorian Bike Ride. This year’s 510 km route began in Albury, NSW and wound its way through the Victorian high country to Lilydale. The students took part in some of the great cycling challenges of the Victorian high country, such as climbing Tawonga Gap and Tolmie Hill. The APC students proved to be very apt riders and were role models of safety and teamwork. Despite challenging conditions, including extreme heat and hail in the same day, all students thoroughly enjoyed their time and represented the school in a very positive manner. A big thank you to all of the students who took part and in particular to the parents who joined and made the ride possible.
For my year 10 work experience I went to Foundation Youth Australia. They are a not-for-profit organisation that focus on youth and working with youth on skills to do with the workplace, volunteering, but also connecting and helping them start projects to help and inspire people around Australia, within communities, or sometimes just schools.

My week involved going around the foundation, and working with all the different people and teams who work with FYA. This included people who worked behind the scenes with partnership, media, and finance, and people who actively go out to young people around Australia and work with different projects. It was incredibly interesting to see how the whole organisation worked, and what the teams did, and how some of them overlapped and helped each other. It was inspiring and motivating to see so many examples of amazing projects and positive change made predominantly by youth, backed by FYA.

I will take a lot with me into the future, as I learnt a large array of skills, and I now want to start a project at APC to make a positive change.

Aislinge Samuel – Year 10
This year, the teachers and students continued to build and refine APCs delivery of a quality Mathematics Curriculum that engages and prepares students for the needs of the future. As a teaching team, we aim to provide a variety of experiences at the school and this year activities have included: Stain Glass Window Construction, String Art, The Mathematics of Basketball, Learn To Teach (Writing a lesson) and Statistics Research Posters. We have used a mixture of concrete materials, field experimentation, group exploration, consolidation exercises, and online resources to cater for a variety of learning styles and habits. In Term 4, we trialled HOTMaths, an online system designed by Mathematics’ teachers to support and manage student learning. This was a popular system and APC is adopting this with all 7-10 classes next year.
On Friday the 5th of December we had our annual Multicultural Day here at Albert Park College, which is always a fun day, when both staff and students are invited to participate in a variety of activities including Japanese Drumming, Bollywood Dancing, Yoga & Meditation sessions, European Handball, India & Colombian Cooking classes, Tai Kwon Do, Tai Chi & Origami sessions amongst numerous other activities. We also had a four wonderful indigenous performers who combined to give students a greater understanding of their culture. Multicultural Day is a day designed to expose our students to as many different cultures as we can to encourage them to participate in & embrace the differences. On the day, students and staff also dressed up in the colours of or in traditional outfits of a number of different countries that they had decided to represent. Overall, we had another very successful Multicultural Day in 2014 and look forward to having another day like this next year.