Principal’s Report

2014 VCE Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP ATAR</th>
<th>99.50</th>
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<tr>
<td>ATARs ABOVE 90</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median Study Score</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>40+ Study Scores</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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2014 was certainly a highly successful one for Ashwood Secondary College. Our VCE students achieved some stellar results and congratulations go to Xinjun Liu who achieved an ATAR of 99.5, placing her in the top 0.4% in the state of Victoria.

The ATAR is a ranking rather than a cumulative score of student results and is primarily used for selection into tertiary courses. Approximately 76% of the tertiary offers students received were undergraduate university places (24% TAFE) with Deakin, Melbourne and Monash as the preferred universities of Ashwood students. The broad range of courses is reflective of the varied interests of our students and includes: Health, Sport and general Science; Nursing and Paramedics; Media, Film and Television; Business and International Studies; Engineering; Education.

I congratulate all the students on their achievements and on behalf of the College, wish them continued success in all their endeavours. I also thank and commend their teachers for their great work and ongoing support in guiding the students through their secondary education and preparing them with the skills and knowledge necessary for such success.

Staffing:

Congratulations to:

- Karen Bares - Leading Teacher: Achievement (Acting position Sem. 1; replacing Deb Gibson)
- Shelley Haughey - Leading Teacher: Connections and Growth
- Chris Tipping - Leading Teacher: Instructional Practice

2015 House Coordinators:

- Vicky Dernikos - Patterson (Blue)
- Allison Phillips - Melba (Green)
- Dom Holloway - Flynn (Red)
- John Sheehan - Cowan (Yellow)
- Julie Huggins - VCE/VCAL Coordinator
- Kim Elliston - International Students Coordinator
- Meg McLellan - Integration Coordinator
- Janet Wiggins - Interschool Sports Coordinator
- Vicky Dernikos - Sports Carnivals Coordinator
- Peter Forbes - Acting Assistant Principal (Term 1- replacing Anna Kukuruzovic)
- Deb Gibson - Acting Assistant Principal (Semester 1- replacing Jo Henriksen)
At the end of last year we farewelled:

- Sandra Baker: Leave 2015
- Erin Benham: Transfer to Healesville SC
- Melanie Fleming: Teaching position at Wesley College
- Jo Henriksen: Long Service Leave Semester 1
- Sue James: Retirement
- Anastasia Moukas: Study
- Natalie Same: Family Leave
- Nick Swain: Teaching position WA
- Mel Worth: Leading Teacher position at Camberwell HS

This year we welcome to the Ashwood College team:

- Shelley Haughey: Leading Teacher
- Chris Tipping: Leading Teacher
- Lisa Drake: English/EAL
- Jo Denton: Biology/Maths
- Brigitte Ferguson: English/Drama/Theatre Studies

**Principal:**

Kerrie Croft officially retired on the 27 January 2015 and we wish her relaxed and happy times. Responsibility for the appointment of a new principal lies with the Regional Office of the Department of Education and Training (DET). Selection and interviews are conducted by a panel comprising of the Regional Director (or his nominee), Regional Senior Advisor, School Council Parent representative, staff representative and a principal from another school. The position was advertised mid-February with the anticipation that the newly appointed principal will assume the role at the beginning of Term 2.

Whilst I have enjoyed many aspects of my role as Acting Principal, I will not be applying for the substantive position. I will revert to my role as Assistant Principal and look forward to working closely with the new principal and leadership team as we continue our unstinting endeavours to maximise outcomes for all of our students. Thank you to the Ashwood College community – students, parents and staff – for your ongoing support.

**Day One:**

Once again this year, our Year 7 and 12 students were the first to return on Thursday 28 January. This was a wonderful opportunity for our newest pupils to meet and become acquainted with our most senior students who happily shared their insights, knowledge and experiences. The day finished off with a lovely barbeque luncheon for all students, their parents and staff in our outdoor entertainment court. The beautiful, sunny day reflected the affable and engaging atmosphere and it was delightful to note the positive interactions and friendly mingling. Thank you to all who attended and in particular, to the organising staff.

*Anna Kukuruzovic, Acting Principal*
ASHWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE DISCOVERY DAY 2015
Wednesday 18th March 2015

As part of the Ashwood Secondary College orientation and transition program we will be holding our annual Discovery Day on Wednesday 18 March 2015. Students, teachers and parents from Local Primary Schools will experience an afternoon of interactive educational activities led by Ashwood Secondary College students and teachers in our new 21st Century Open Learning Spaces.

Attendance for Ashwood Secondary College students:

In order for the day to run optimally there will be alternate attendance requirements for Ashwood Secondary College students.

- All Year 7 students required at school from 10.30am till 3.20pm.
- Yr 8, 9 and 10 students – helpers only required at school from 10.30am till 3.20pm.
- All Year 11 & 12 students required at school from 8.45am-3.20pm (VCE classes will operate as normal with an additional VCE block in the afternoon).
- Students not in Yr 7, Yr 11, Yr 12 or assisting on the day are NOT required at school.
- Please note all Yr 7 students and Year 8, 9, & 10 student helpers will receive a Discovery Day permission form through COMPASS. Please approve as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support of the College
OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 18th March 2015
5.00pm – 7.00pm

Explore and Discover:

- Personalised, effective learning
- The student perspective
- Our State of the Art facilities
- Why Ashwood Secondary College is the right school for your child

7.00pm: PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Everyone Welcome!

For more information please contact the General Office at the College.
SWIMMING FUN!

Ashwood Secondary College gathered at the Oakleigh Recreation Centre in all its glory to celebrate yet another successful Swimming Carnival.

Congratulations to all participants! It was fantastic to see most, if not everyone, swimming, cheering and supporting their Houses.

Those who elected not to swim, entered novelty races and assisted with organisational tasks to further contribute to the House points. The enthusiasm rocketed above the sky and everyone contributed to a great atmosphere and a fun day.

Kevin Lee, Simon Leggett, Mayra Kelly & Cameron Ogilvie

Sport House Captains
### KEY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
<td>Students not required at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10th March</td>
<td>Year 12 Parent Information Session</td>
<td>6.30 pm to 7.30 pm in the CLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13th March</td>
<td>Division Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18th March</td>
<td>Discovery Day &amp; Open Evening</td>
<td>5 pm to 7 pm</td>
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<td>Friday 20th March</td>
<td>Year 7 Round Robin</td>
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<td>Monday 23rd March</td>
<td>Intermediate Round Robin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th March</td>
<td>Year 8 Round Robin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27 March</td>
<td>House Cross Country</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27 March</td>
<td>Term 1 Ends – 3.20pm finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13 April</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
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### VICTORIAN TERM DATES & SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2015

**Term 1 (9 weeks)** Wednesday January 28, 2015 - Friday March 27, 2015  
**School holidays:** Monday March 30, 2015 - Friday April 10, 2015

**Term 2 (11 weeks)** Monday April 13, 2015 - Friday June 26, 2015  
**School holidays:** Monday June 29, 2015 - Friday July 11, 2015

**Term 3 (10 weeks)** Monday July 13, 2015 - Friday September 18, 2015  
**School holidays:** Monday September 21, 2015 - Friday October 2, 2015

**Term 4 (11 weeks)** Monday October 5, 2015 - Friday December 18, 2015  
**School holidays:** Monday December 21, 2015 - Tuesday January 26, 2016*
Public Transport Victoria

Do students need concession cards?

16 years and under

If you are a student aged 16 and under you can travel on concession fares. You do not need a concession card.

17 years and over

If you are a student aged 17 and over you must carry a valid VPT Student Concession Card.

Students are required to touch on with their myki cards every time they travel, even if they have a valid student pass.

For more detailed information go to:


Student passes

If you are a primary or secondary student with a Victorian Public Transport (VPT) Student Concession Card, you may be able to buy a yearly or half yearly student pass. The pass provides great savings for regular travellers.

To find out how much it costs, see Metropolitan myki fares.

Applying for a Victorian Public Transport Student Concession Card or Student Pass

You can apply for a Victorian Public Transport Student Concession Card or Student Pass by completing the following form:

2015 Victorian Public Transport (VPT) Student Concession Card application form (PDF) 211kB

The application requires a signature and the official stamp of Ashwood Secondary College, which can be completed by General Office Staff.

Lodging your application

You can lodge your application at:

- **PTV Hub** at 750 Collins Street: Applications are accepted Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm.
- **Premium Stations**: Applications are accepted Monday - Friday after 9.30am. Some stations may be unable to process applications between 3.30pm - 6.00pm on weekdays. Also accepted all day Saturday and Sunday.
Year 7, Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 Immunisation Visits 2015

The recommended immunisation schedule for secondary school students is provided free at Ashwood Secondary College by the Monash Council Immunisation team. Please note that the College is only a venue for the immunisations and all enquiries concerning records of immunisations should be directed to Monash Council on 9518 3555.

Immunisation Dates:

Year 7 students will be immunised on 30/04/15, 27/07/15 & 26/11/15
Year 8 students will be immunised on 26/11/15
Year 9 students will be immunised on 30/04/15
Year 10 students will be immunised on 27/07/15
Learn about Your World

Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2015 like Neile, who is 15, is outgoing and positive and who likes being involved in her community. Together with her school-mates, she had organised a fundraiser effort involving participation in a 300-km hiking trail into the Black Forest. Besides playing the piano and saxophone in a band, she also performs in street festivals and helps out at the farmers’ market. Prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Students arrive in July 2015 for one term, one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Spain all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit our website www.scce.com.au, email us at scceast@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501.

*photo of previous student

Casserole Club

Could you cook one extra portion of dinner for an older neighbour?

The Casserole Club is a meal-sharing project that connects people who like to cook and are happy to share an extra portion of a home cooked meal, with older neighbours living close by.

As a cook, you can get involved as a micro-volunteer, which means you can choose to cook at a time that is convenient, as a one-off or on a regular basis.

We are currently recruiting cooks and diners in suburbs throughout Boroondara.

- Sign up now to get cooking or email the Casserole Club to join as a diner.

Cooks are required to sign up on the site and undertake short food safety quiz and police check before they can search and contact local diners.

The Casserole Club team works with local organisations to help reach diners, we also take direct referrals including from friends and relatives either through our contact number 92784444 or to CasseroleClub@boroondara.vic.gov.au.
Rotary Youth Exchange - A Chance of a Lifetime! Host Families Invited Now!

Rotary Youth Exchange invites kind and caring Host Families within the community to assist local Rotary Clubs offer an outstanding exchange program to young people from all over the World.

A Host Family is a vital part of this cultural and educational exchange. Typically, the family hosts a student on a voluntary basis for a period of between 10 to 16 weeks. In doing so, a Host Family officially becomes a Friend of Rotary International. The Host Family plays an integral role in offering the student the experience of a new culture and language, whilst at the same time learning about a different culture from a young leader. It is a direct window to the world for all members of a Host family.

You not only share a young person’s hopes and dreams, but more importantly, you make those dreams possible. Hosting is the beginning of a lifelong friendship and connection with a student and family overseas. Whilst it can be challenging to help a young person transition to a new culture and ease into the surroundings, it is always fun and the rewards are immeasurable.

Host Families in the Rotary Youth Exchange program come in many shapes and sizes! Young children, older children, and no children at all, extended families and older generations – all have been successful in hosting exchange students.

Please consider this amazing and rewarding opportunity now. Enquiries are most welcome.

Further information is available from –

Stuart McDonald,
Phone 5962 4694 or 0408 388 489

www.rotaryyouthexchange.org.au