Principal’s Report—7th November 2011

Student Learning Devices (SLDs)

As I indicated in my last report, I have been investigating the option of providing students in Years 7 – 9 with an ACER 1830T netbook. This is the same device that has been made available to all students in Years 10 and 11 under the Commonwealth Government funded National Secondary School Computer Fund. The school has already expended almost twice its allocated funds under the NSSCF grant in providing students with an up-to-date, powerful student learning device. I believe that access to these devices is absolutely essential for all students from Year 7 to 12 if we are to give them the best opportunities to achieve their potential in the 21st Century. Equally importantly I believe that to not provide such devices to our students puts them at a competitive disadvantage. As teachers become accustomed to students having 24/7 access to a learning device they are raising the bar in terms of the level of work and the level of collaboration they expect from students. Teachers across the board are making much greater use of OneNote as a collaborative learning tool and as a repository for work. OneNote is also proving to be a great organisational tool for students. Students who are struggling with their learning are benefitting from the technology by using computers to assist with reading, spelling and grammar. The possibilities are virtually endless which only leaves one problem – how do we fund these devices for our students?

I will be sending a letter home shortly inviting parents of students in Years 7 – 9 to be part of a co-contribution SLD program. The cost of the program will be no more than $85 per school term for three years. This cost will include the cost of the device, the software and the insurance for a period of three years. At the end of the three years the device will become the property of the parent/student. The cost of this program compares extremely favourably with programs in schools around us and is only possible if we get the vast majority of parents to commit to the program. There will be no cost for technical support for these devices as the school will use its funds to provide this support. Watch this space!

Technical Education Centre

As part of the current state government’s election commitments Somerville Secondary College will be gaining a Technical Education Centre (TEC). This $5 million dollar complex will allow the delivery of Certificate Level courses in Building & Construction, Electrotechnology, Community Service and Plumbing to be delivered at Somerville Secondary College. Existing classes in Years 7 – 11 will also make use of this new facility and existing technology rooms will be refurbished and fitted out for more general purpose classroom usage. The TEC will operate in partnership with a TAFE provider which will allow the facility to be fully utilized both inside and outside of school hours. I have recently attended a number of meetings with regard to planning for this project and I am confident it will represent a huge step forward for the provision of education programs to our local community.

Winding Down?

You could be forgiven for thinking that as we approach the middle of Term 4 in the school year that we are ‘winding down’ to the end of year break. Nothing could be further from the truth. In approximately three weeks current classes will finish for 2011 and the entire timetable will be rolled over to 2012. The vast majority of students will be promoted to their new year level, teachers will move into new allotments and the 2012 education program will begin. Students currently in Year 11 will complete one week of Year 12 during the rollover period. Students currently in Year 10 will complete two weeks of their Year 11 program and students currently in Years 7 to 9 will complete four weeks for their 2012 program during the last part of Term 4.

Examinations will begin shortly in Years 10 and 11 (with a number of students undertaking Year 12 Exams on November 15 & 16). I hope that all students make the most of the last three weeks of their current program and ensure that they are promoted on November 28th.

Chris Lloyd
This is an extremely busy time of the year as we prepare for the 2012 school year. There are many things for students and parents to remember to facilitate a smooth start.

**Early Start**
Our Early Start begins on November 28th which means that students begin work in their new year level and new subjects for 2012. Students currently in Years 7-9 finish the school year on Wednesday December 21st, whilst students currently in Year 10 finish on Friday December 9th and students in Year 11 finish on Friday December 2nd.

**Students at Risk**
The process for identifying students at risk was implemented for the first time last year and continues this year. Those students who have been identified as at risk of not putting in sufficient effort to achieve a satisfactory result in their subjects will receive a letter informing them of this and indicating that if an attempt is not made in the next couple of weeks to complete assignments, tasks, projects and class work, the student and their parent will be required to attend an interview to discuss options for 2012. These options may include a probationary period in the current year level or repeating the current year level for the whole year. Parents and students have had the opportunity to monitor progress and communicate with subject teachers through Interim and Semester Reports as well as Parent Teacher Interviews.

**Examinations**
Year 11 students currently studying Year 12 Studio Arts and History: Revolutions will sit their final VCE exams in the next couple of weeks so we wish them every success.

The Year 10 and Year 11 exam period begins on Wednesday November 23rd and concludes on Friday November 25th. Students are advised to be at school 30 minutes before the start of their exam.

All exams will be held in the gym and students are expected to wear full school uniform. Year 10 students are expected to remain at school after their exams and continue with their normal timetable. Year 11 students are only required to attend school for the exams, so may need to make arrangements for getting home. If Year 11 students are unable to get home, they will be supervised at school.

**Uniform**
It is pleasing to see most students consistently wearing school uniform. However, there are a significant number of students, male and female, who are not wearing the correct shoes. It is not acceptable for students to wear runners, sports shoes, grandpa slippers, slip-ons and broken T bars.

The Uniform Policy quite clearly indicates that students must wear black, polishable, lace up school shoes or functional T bars.

Form Teachers have been asked to make contact with parents and guardians to discuss the issue and to ensure that each student is wearing correct footwear.

We look forward to a smooth start to 2012.

*Lynn Motteram*
Admin Matters

Landmark Booklists

Booklists will need to be returned to College no later than **11th November 2011** for Years 8 to 12 in 2012. For Year 7 / 2012 students, booklists are due in to the office by 13th December 2011.

Collection Day for Book Packs will be **Monday, 28th November from 3pm to 6pm** in the Auditorium.

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**Hand In Day for Current Year 7 to Year 11 students (Yr 8 to Year 12 in 2012)**

Mrs Jacqui Jobling and Mrs Vickie Burke will be available in the Administration Office on **Thursday, 24th November from 2:30pm to 5:30pm** to collect those text books you wish to sell. Please ensure you pack your books in a clearly labelled bag with the appropriate forms attached. These forms will be distributed in student packs being sent home mid October.

For those students still needing their books to study for exams, you have until 12 noon on Monday, 28th November to hand your books in. **No books after 12 noon will be accepted.**

**Sale day: Monday, 28th November from 3pm to 6pm (same time as Landmark Collection day)**

You will have the opportunity to purchase secondhand books first before you collect your Landmark Books. If you have purchased the book through Landmark but have the opportunity to purchase one secondhand, then Landmark are happy to remove that book from your Landmark pack and deduct the cost from your total. Please remember to order the book through Landmark on the booklist first because there is no guarantee you will be able to purchase that same book secondhand.

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**BPay Payments**

On your family statement which is sent home regularly, you may have noticed a BPay box similar to the one below. Every family has their own unique Reference No. so that we can track which family is making the payment. If you wish to pay fees, excursions etc using this BPay facility and it is a one-off payment and not part of a payment plan, could you please email the College notifying us of your payment and what you want it to go towards. The college email address is: somerville.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**Administration/Finance Office Open Night**

**Wednesday, 30th November 2011**

Never get a chance to come to the College during normal school hours??

The Administration/Finance Office will be open until 8:00pm on Wednesday, 30th November 2011 where we will be available to assist you with any enquiries you may have regarding your school fees, booklists, camps, EMA, electives etc.

If you wish to commence a payment plan, then this is the perfect opportunity to come and get it started.

**STUDENT ABSENCE LINE: 5973 1098**
Destination Malaysia

On September 21st, 15 students from Somerville Secondary College and one student from Mount Erin went to Malaysia for 9 days as part of the Indonesian language program. The reason why Malaysia is chosen as the study tour destination is because Malaysian language and Indonesian language came from the same root language, therefore the students who have been learning Indonesian since Year 7 are able to use their communication skills in Malaysia. Students were able to greet, make friends and bargain in Indonesian. We went to many interesting places in Malaysia, such as Hindu and Buddhist temples, traditional markets, the Orang Utan Sanctuary and much more.

If you are interested in being part of this exciting and adventurous trip in 2013, please speak to Bu Anggraeni.

Terima kasih dan sampai jumpa!! (It is only 2 years away - so easy to start saving now)

Helena Anggraeni
Head of LOTE Department

Fund Raising Update

Funds “Snagged” at Bunnings Hastings

College Board members ran a sausage sizzle at the new Bunnings store in Hastings on Saturday 15th October. Sausages and bread were generously donated by Proud Chick Mega Meats of Somerville, onions generously donated by Chef’s Pantry in Braeside and some soft drinks generously donated by Board member Jacqui Jobling (along with the eskies!) Board Members Josh Blanchard, Wendy Eames, president Deb Hollands, Tracey and Teana Thornell, Principal Chris Lloyd, David McKinney, Catherine Arnold, Mark Humphries, Board Treasurer Dianne Elliott, student representatives Minnie Elliott and Maddie Mooney all worked very hard to feed the crowd.

The weather was kind, the sausages and onions smelled fantastic, and we raised over $900 for our College! Thank you to all the College Board members, staff and students who gave up their Saturday. A big thank you to Bunnings for the venue and a giant thank you to all the hungry patrons!

We hope to run another successful sausage sizzle (hard to say!) with Bunnings in the future - dates to be advised. Come and see us - but bring your appetites!
Somerville Secondary College had three students make it to the Southern Metropolitan Region athletics held at Knox Athletics Track on Thursday 13th October. Tom Edwards competed in High Jump doing an excellent job, achieving a close 4th overall. Well done Tom! Kaylan Jansen competed in the 100m and 200m track events, coming 1st in the 100m and a very close 2nd in the 200m.

Kaylan then went on to compete in the State Finals on Tuesday 25th October at Albert Park, representing Somerville Secondary College in the 100m. Kaylan trained leading up the event putting him in an excellent position to do well on the day.

We sent our Sports Captains Doug Sherlock and Danielle Cuttriss to cheer Kaylan on, helping him to achieve 4th place on the day. Big congratulations to Kaylan, the 4th fastest 15 year old in the state! We are all very proud of Kaylan’s achievement.

SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS
Sports for schools vouchers have now finished and Somerville Secondary College would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection of vouchers for our school. Vouchers poured in daily, and will be counted shortly. We will keep you updated on the equipment purchased with these vouchers.
Thank you from the Breakfast Club

Thanks to Bakers Delight & their donation of bread on a weekly basis for the Breakfast Club. The Breakfast Club depends on the donation it receives from staff, families & students at Somerville Secondary College. The Breakfast Club wouldn’t be running if it wasn’t for the bread donation it receives from Bakers Delight.

A couple of the students who support Breakfast Club put together a poster to thank Bakers Delight. I would like to thank Bakers Delight on behalf of everyone at Somerville Secondary College.....

THANK YOU. We appreciate the support now & in the future.

Maryam

Talking Teens and Alcohol / Drugs

Are you worried about your teens alcohol use?

Do you wonder what you can do about it?

Wondering how to maintain boundaries whilst encouraging independence?

How to keep them safe?

Do you want to keep a connection with them?

Come and join us for a chat around the everyday highs and lows of parenting.

Who: Dads, mums & carers of young people under 18

When: November, 10, 17, 24 & 1 & 6 December

Time: 7.00 – 9.00pm

Where: Karingal Neighbourhood House,

103 Ashleigh Ave, Frankston

Cost: Free (bookings essential)

Contact: Helena on 5991 2225 or 0488 550 490
Community Announcements

Date Saturday 12th November 2011
Time 10.00am – 4.00pm
Place Hastings Museum Corner Marine Parade & Skinner Street, Hastings

Pizza, Pathways & Job Options

@ Mt Eliza Village Neighbourhood Centre Inc

Open to all young people

WHEN: Mondays 4.30-6.00 (Term 4 2011)

WHERE:
90-100 Canadian Bay Road, Mt Eliza 3930

WHAT TO BRING:
Yourself and a friend (if you want)

WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING:
We will eat pizza and do anything that you need to get a career and job.

FURTHER DETAILS Marilyn Pelman- 9787 8160

Individualised Pathway and Job Options:

1. Find a job - full time, part time or school based apprenticeship.
2. Access to Practice aptitude testing - Apprenticeship and military preparation
3. Career awareness
4. Apprenticeships - full time/ part-time and school based
5. Interview skills - for uni, TAFE and job interviews
6. What you need to do to earn good money
7. How to follow your passion & do what you love.
8. What career is right for you – overview of options, interest and aptitude testing

LOOKING FOR DONATED DEEP FREEZE

If you have a deep freeze that you are happy to donate to the College please contact us on 59-731000.

Thank you
Community Announcements & Advertisements

Mega Meats Somerville Shop
14/ 49 Eramosa Rd West,
Somerville (03) 5978 0160

EDUSKILL
DRIVER TRAINING & EDUCATION
Michelle Millard
CERT IV QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR
ACCREDITED KEYS2DRIVE PROVIDER
POLICE CHECK & CHILDREN'S AUTHORITY
MANUAL & AUTOMATIC LESSONS
INTRODUCTORY OFFER
PRODUCT # PK9
4 X 45MIN STD DAY TIME LESSONS
SPECIAL PRICE
$145.00!!
SAVE $35.00
PLUS A FREE KEYS 2 DRIVE PROGRAM
Total Value $260.00
0419 376 926
Web: www.eduskill.com.au
Email: eduskill@hotmail.com
*Conditions Apply – Limit – 1 X PK9 Per Student.
*Offer Valid To Current Student Card Holders & K2D
Eligibility – Offer Valid to December 31st 2011

The Athlete's Foot - Frankston
(03) 9781 5557
Shop 136, Bayside Shopping Centre

PROUD CHIC
MEGA MEATS

Mega Meats Somerville Shop
14/ 49 Eramosa Rd West,
Somerville (03) 5978 0160

Anytime Fitness
Now Open Somerville
Open 24/7
Centro Somerville
49-52 Eramosa Road West
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(Above Rivers)
www.anytimefitness.com.au
Call us on 5978 0002

Image is Everything
Quality work, innovative designs and tasteful colour combinations have always made our work distinctive.

IS IT THE RIGHT TIME TO GIVE YOUR BUSINESS A SIGNAGE UPGRADE?

Signforce
brushwork, vinyl cut + digital signage solutions
Em. signforce@bigpond.com
Tel. 5977.5844
Fax. 5977.5493