Principal’s Report

Term 1 – Student Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

Teachers are currently completing student interim reports. These reports are briefer than the end of semester report, but still give a very clear indication of student progress. **Reports will be issued to parents at the parent teacher interviews on the second Monday of Term 2, 20th April.** The parent teacher interviews take the form of a 3-way conference where each student will make a PowerPoint presentation about his/her progress and learning. **Please note that it is compulsory for parents to attend these 3-way conferences as the students will be formally assessed on their presentation as a part of their VCAL course.**

3-Way Conference Bookings – 1.30 – 7.30pm Monday, 20th April

You need to make one 15 minute booking only with your child’s classroom teacher. These bookings are essential. We would prefer bookings to be made on-line by logging into our new Compass school management program. You were sent usernames and logins in the mail last month. However bookings can also be made by filling in a booking preference attached to this newsletter and sending via your child to see their classroom teacher. (peterlalor.vic.jdlf.com.au/login) Again, please help us by making a booking for this allocated day as the 3-way conference is compulsory. Students do not have to attend classes on the day, but must attend for their scheduled 3-way conference.

Student Numbers

Our VCAL student numbers have now settled at 140 for 2015. We will not be enrolling any more students for 2015 but have already started a list of applicants for 2016.

Paul Ryan

Dates to Remember

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<th>March 27th, 2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term Dates</td>
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<td>Term 1 - 29 Jan to 27 Mar</td>
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<td>Term 2 - 13 Apr to 16 Jun</td>
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<td>Term 3 - 13 Jul to 18 Sep</td>
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<td>Term 4 - 5 Oct to 18 Dec</td>
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<th>Dates to Remember</th>
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<tr>
<td>13 Apr - Term 2 Begins</td>
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<td>20 Apr - 3-Way Conferences</td>
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<td>8 Jun - Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<td>26 Jun - End of Term 2</td>
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Grand Prix Excursion 12th March 2015
Structured Work Placements

All students should have a work placement by now.

If your child does not have a placement now they are required to attend school on their work placement day from the beginning of March (Year 10 - Tuesday, Year 11 & 12 - either Wednesday or Friday).

Simmone will be in her office from Monday to Thursday to help your child find a work placement. Please ask them to come and see Simmone, especially on the day of their work placement.

Paul Ryan
Principal

Spin Chat Reflection

Paul’s presentation was about the different types of spinal cord injuries, and how he had an accident and broke his spinal cord and how he is now a quadriplegic. He also told us how we should enjoy our lives and not take our body for granted. (Nathan V)

I think Paul’s talk was really inspirational and encouraged me to keep pushing - no matter what. (Michelle Y)

As Paul said you never think you’re going to be that one who ends up being paralysed but Paul said it can happen to anyone at any time. (Leigh McD)

The main thing I took out of it was that to never give up on life even if something that severe happens just to keep going and be strong. (Nathan P)

Paul Mariager was really good to speak to. I have done this thing already at my old school. He really opens up and you get to know him and his story and how he’s doing in his life and what has changed for him. (Ali Y)

I really enjoyed Paul coming in because his story was really interesting and kind of made me realise how important my body is. (Wade D)
Grand Prix Excursion 12th March 2015
Solar Car Construction Reflection cont...
Excursions Term 1

Galleries we visited:
ACCA – Australian Centre for Contemporary Art
VCA - Victorian College of The Arts
CCP – Centre for Contemporary Photography
Colour Factory Gallery
Strange Neighbour Gallery
Many Intermediate students experienced the National Gallery of Victoria for the first time this March, when the students visited the Gallery to examine some of the many war and battle art works on display. Students and staff were impressed with the range, starting from very early tribal conflicts in 600 AD to very recent photography work that depicted the “Blood Generation” in Papua New Guinea.

The students were particularly interested in the large installation pieces and the beautiful working gold carousel that is currently on display.
Gallery Excursion cont.....
Solar Car Construction Reflection

“Anatoli delivered a creative and engaging crafting session with the Senior Students of Peter Lalor Vocational College. Each of us created a small solar powered car from just some wood, a solar panel, a gearbox and some wheels. The process was quite simple, we started by cutting the wood with a coping saw, then sanding it down smooth. We then grabbed a solar panel and a gearbox and wired them together. Anatoli helped us by hot-gluing the parts together and attaching the wheels. When the glue cooled down we tested them with Anatoli’s high-powered torch.” – (Curtis B)

Today in the Senior Class we did woodwork. The instructor told us what to do and we all started working on it straight away. We made a solar panel car and our footy team mascot. I think we all did an amazing job and I would love to do it again. (Michelle Y)

I enjoyed the whole thing it was good fun mucking around and making the car was cool. (Ha-ha I broke my magpie’s leg though - it was sad poor fella.) (Wade D)

Today for the first two sessions we had arts and craft with Anatoli. He is an experienced builder that goes around to schools to help young people in how to build basic things. Each student created a solar powered car and an AFL pencil holder which was quite fun and enjoying to make. I personally found the AFL pencil holder hard to make because there were a few curves and corners in it which was quite difficult to do. The solar powered car was easy to make because it was basically straight forward to do with the only really hard part was trying to get the wire into the small hole which was connected to the motor. (Nathan P)

Today I’ve learnt how to build a solar powered car. It was pretty hard to cut the wood into the shape of the car, but doing the solar power part was pretty easy. (Brayden C)

Anatoli from Craftworks came down to our school and got us to make small solar powered cars using a small motor, wheels and a thin piece of birch wood as the body. After we finished that, he got us to cut out a piece of wood in the shape of our favourite Football Mascot. (Nathan V)

The solar car construction activity was good and fun but I would have liked to have done something more complex because I found it easy, but overall it was good. A more complex solar car build would have been better. He talked about all the different tools you use for wood work and we cut out our own base for our solar cars and then we connected the motor to the solar panel and then it got glued to the base and then we waited 15 mins for the glue to dry and then made footy mascots which was good. (Leigh McD)
3 - WAY CONFERENCE BOOKING FORM

3 - Way Conference is on Monday 20th April.

STUDENT NAME: ________________________________________________________________

PARENT(S) ATTENDING: _________________________________________________________

CLASS TEACHER: ______________________________________________________________

TIME PREFERENCE (Please circle)

1.30 - 2.30
3.30 - 4.30
4.30 - 5.00

Tea break (no appointments)
5.30 - 6.30
6.30 - 7.30

Return this form to your class teacher by Thursday 16th April 2015 if an appointment has not yet been placed on the Compass System.